

# Today's Arc

February 2010

Volume 9, Issue 2



## TwentySomethings Get Together!

*Margo Pasko*

TwentySomethings got together for a lunch, movie and games afternoon at Spring Creek Barbecue in Missouri City on Sunday, January 17, 2010. Once again, community partners Miriam and Wael Moussa and their friends Arwa, Reem, Nerissa and Angelo led the fun. TwentySomethings members Anna, Bianca, Carrie, Geraldo, Giovanni, Jennifer, Lucas, Nicki, and Meredith enjoyed the games and companionship. Family members who also attended were Cathy and Christy Kroboth, Brenda Corprew, Janet Wantuch, Guadalupe Chapa, Cristina and Diego Alcantara, and Cathy Rivera.



The group made plans for the next two events, so get out your calendars and watch the mail for the specific details. On March 6, TwentySomethings and their community partners are going to the zoo. On April 10, the group will participate in Telfair's Charity of Choice walk. Mrs. Chapa came up with the suggestion that the group could go to the zoo. Everyone agreed that would be lots of fun. If you have suggestions for future activities, call or e-mail Margo.

If you are an Arc member who is in your "Twenties", call or e-mail Margo Pasko to get on the mailing list. You can reach her at 281-494-5928 or mapasko@arcoffortbend.org. If you did not receive the last mailout regarding Spring Creek Barbecue, please call or e-mail Margo to make sure she has your correct contact information.



**Save the Date!**

## Celebrating Abilities

Saturday,  
March 27, 2010  
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*Sugar Land  
Town Square*

### Inside this issue:

Mission, Core Values, Board Members	2
Executive Director's Message	3
Knowledge First-Empowerment Center	4
Charity Challenge Sign Up	8-9
February 2010 Calendar	10
Membership Form	11

**OUR MISSION**

The Arc of Fort Bend County ensures opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to maximize their quality of life within our community.

*The Arc of Fort Bend County  
Board of Directors 2009-2010*

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Chairman**

Barry Beard

**Vice Chairman**

Greg Hernandez

**Treasurer**

Karen Daly

**Secretary**

Sandra Pierce

**MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Mike Casey

Rick Cushenberry

Becky Geary

Avis Goldy

Paul Harding

Stewart Jacobson

Thelma Jones

Jack Molho

Jacqui Russell

Mary Stephney Quinby

**Executive Director**

Laura LaVigne

**Education Advocate**

Cheryl Sewell

**Employment Specialist**

Margo Pasko

**Program Director**

Nancy Dobert

**Administrative Assistant**

Nicole Castagnet

**Account Manager**

Jenny Schulte

*Committee Assignments and Job Descriptions are  
available on our website*

**CORE VALUES**

1. Awareness: greater awareness about individuals with disabilities increases understanding about the abilities of individuals with disabilities, and greater understanding increases opportunities for individuals with disabilities, so we work to achieve greater awareness to achieve greater understanding to expand opportunities.
2. Diversity: we must serve all individuals with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families in this county.
3. Respect: we must be understanding of and sensitive to the concerns of individuals with disabilities about their identity and how we describe them.
4. Ownership: it is important to have community members serve on our committees and board, and support our association, but our association should remain an “individuals with disabilities and their families” organization.
5. Advocacy: with limited resources, if we become primarily or solely a provider organization, our association will never do more than make only a limited impact on the quality of life of a few individuals with disabilities.
6. Cooperation: advocacy and programs that benefit individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families in many cases will also benefit individuals with other disabilities.
7. Good Stewardship: as an association, we must be fiduciaries of the talent and resources that our volunteers and community supporters entrust to us.

**OUR GOALS**

The Arc’s goals were chosen to be directed toward Mission and Vision and build on our strength and success.

- I. The Arc will maintain an effective leadership team to insure the accomplishment of The Arc’s vision and mission.
- II. The Arc will deploy outreach strategies that will increase community awareness of the needs of all Arc stakeholders.
- III. The Arc will collaborate with existing transportation systems in Ft. Bend County to provide transportation that is reliable, safe and affordable.
- IV. The Arc will collaborate with providers of job training and placement programs to improve quality and quantity of programs.
- V. The Arc will provide programs and services which will directly improve the quality of life for its clients and their families.
- VI. The Arc will implement sound fiduciary strategies that will increase financial stability and growth of the organization.

**To Send a Special Tribute**

In Memory of      or       In Honor of

Pay tribute to a friend or family member while also supporting services and programs that benefit the Arc of Fort Bend County with your donation.

Person’s Name

Occasion

Send acknowledgement to:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Please make checks payable to:  
The Arc of Fort Bend County  
123 Brooks Street, Sugar Land, Texas 77478

## Executive Director's Message

Laura LaVigne



### Wade Watson

W.R. Watson, Inc  
President

(281) 495-2800 x14 Work  
wwatson@wrwatson.com  
12902 Mula Lane  
Stafford, TX 77477  
www.wrwatson.com

The Arc's Facilities Committee has been working closely with staff from Texana Center to make improvements to the Learning Center. A/C units and carpeting have been replaced, doors repaired and the kitchen received a major "face-lift" of new sink, dishwasher, cabinets and countertops. Manual Lopez and staff spent time and effort to paint the kitchen walls and steam clean the beautiful tile floors.

Wade Watson, W. R. Watson, Inc., Custom Countertops, donated 14 ½ feet of "Gibraltar" countertops and also donated the installation of the countertops and backsplash! Thank you Wade, your generosity has saved The Arc a substantial amount of money that we can use to fund our programs and services. We appreciate your generosity. If any Arc supporters need countertops, perhaps you will consider calling Wade for a bid! His business is located in Stafford – right here in Ft. Bend County.

## Social Security Questions Answered

Cheryl Sewell

"HELP", said Caryl Woodruff when she couldn't get anybody from the Social Security Administration's office to answer her questions or even call her back. And a chorus of "HELP!" was heard from other parents who were confused about SSI and SSDI, Medicaid and Medicare and how the parent's retiring or passing away would affect their loved one's benefits.

Help came in the form of Juanita Gonzalez, one of Social Security Administrations' Public Relations Representatives. Several of our frustrated parents addressed their concerns with Juanita on January 20th at The Arc office and were delighted with Juanita's responsiveness.

One thing that parents need to remember - especially if their child is receiving HCS funding - is the "Pickle Law". The Pickle Law protects most individuals with disabilities from losing their Medicaid/HCS eligibility if the individual is no longer eligible for SSI. So remember to celebrate the Pickle!

Please call Cheryl Sewell at 281-494-5924 or [orbsewell@arcoffortbend.org](mailto:orbsewell@arcoffortbend.org) if you have a particular topic you would like to learn more about. Cheryl can invite a speaker to discuss your questions and concerns. Also plan to attend The Arc of Fort Bend's annual Special Needs Conference and Resource Fair where a wide variety of topics are discussed.

Those who attended the Social Security session were: Joann & Sam Power, Avis Goldy, Betty Jo Cindy & Vollenweider, Gardinia Burton, Carolyn & Royce Spiceland, Caryl & Lyle Woodruff, Juanita Gonzalez, Anita & John Swoboda and Cheryl Sewell



# Knowledge-First Empowerment Center & The Activity Center for Children with Special Needs

Cheryl Sewell

My, what a long name! However, this is actually two different organizations that have partnered to form an “inclusion” day care/educational environment for children. The “Knowledge-First Empowerment Center” accepts children aged 6 to 16 while the “Activity Center for Children with Special Needs” accepts children grades K-12 who present with disabilities. Both are 501(c)3 not-for-profit entities. (Be aware, however, that neither entity is equipped or staffed to accept children with behavioral or toileting issues.)

## Knowledge-First Empowerment Center

KFEC was founded in 2001 in Houston by James Allen, a retired educator and assistant principal from the HISD system. James opened his second location in Missouri City in 2009. KFEC provides “academic and educational services in an atmosphere that enhances the child’s desire to learn and think for themselves.” James believes that the removal of art, music and humanity programs from public schools has increased the anxiety and hostility levels that children now exhibit in schools and he wants to help children cope with stress and excel as individuals and community leaders.

KFEC offers a before/afterschool program during the school year and a summer program. During that 8 am to 3 pm “down” time during the school year, KFEC opens its doors to adults in the community. Parents and others can access KFEC’s computers, enroll in GED classes, discuss employment issues, access drug/alcohol rehabilitation counseling or discuss other programs that KFEC might offer. There is generally no charge because KFEC wants to be a resource to the community. All of the staff are non-paid volunteers, including James. He indicated that the grants that he has received are reinvested into the programs.



## The Activity Center for Children with Special Needs



Taunja Thomas, a teacher at an HISD Charter School, met James Allen through mutual friends. Taunja discussed her dream of including children with special needs more fully into a “regular” daycare and educational environment. James had already opened the Knowledge-First Empowerment Center in Missouri City, liked the concept and passion that Taunja showed and The Activity Center was created as a summer program. Taunja coordinates the Activity Center, offering individualized activities as well as whole-group activities with the “typically developing” children. Currently, there are 5 children with special needs enrolled. All of the staff are volunteers, including Taunja. Part of the program consists of an imitation of the Disney Channel’s “Camp Rock” where the kids learn to sing, dance, play musical instruments, practice karaoke talents and perform on a small stage. Taunja’s daughter, LaJoy (who attends Hightower High School), was the day’s videographer and “cheer” coordinator.

Larry Barrett, the Administrator/Assistant Director (plus computer geek/networking tech/music producer/director and whatever-else-is-needed-guy) is also a volunteer. He says he volunteers there because of the sandwiches provided. He does “work for food!” All kidding aside, Larry owns a couple of businesses that allow him flexibility with his time. He loves volunteering with KFEC and The Activity Center. He said that they Center is open from about 8 am to 7 pm, or until whenever the last child is picked up - because the “No Child Left Behind” policy is always enforced. (If a parent is running late – staff stay so that no child is left behind!)

For additional information about the Knowledge First Empowerment Center or The Activity Center for children with Special Needs, please contact James Allen at 281-499-8315 / 713-527-4011 or visit their website at [www.knowledge-first.org](http://www.knowledge-first.org).





# SAVE THE DATE!

## 1st Annual Texas Microboard Conference *The biggest little conference in Texas!*

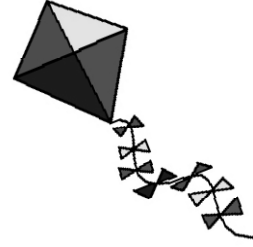
**July 16-17, 2010 - The Woodlands, TX**

This conference will be an opportunity for parents, teachers, friends, families of individuals with disabilities and self-advocates to learn from international and national experts on:

- how to create a microboard, a nonprofit organization to support your family member or friend with a disability in the community of their choice;
- how to create a provider microboard and use federal dollars more efficiently;
- PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope), an innovative person-centered planning tool especially helpful for teachers and transition specialists;
- microenterprises for the entrepreneurial spirit;
- and many more interesting topics!

*Contact Jennifer Mathews at 1 (800) 252-9729 x 123 or [jmathews@thearcoftexas.org](mailto:jmathews@thearcoftexas.org) for more information.*

**\*A limited number of stipends will be available!\***



## Let's go Fly a Kite!

with The Arc's

### Youth Group!

**When: Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>!**

Meet at 9:45 am near the "dog park"

**Where: City of Sugar Land's "Kite Festival"**

**Sugar Land Memorial Park,**

15300 University Boulevard

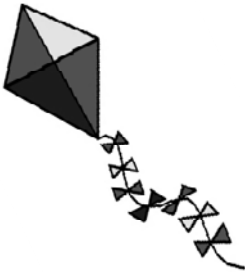
Sugar Land, Texas

(near the UH Sugar Land campus off University)

#### Activities!

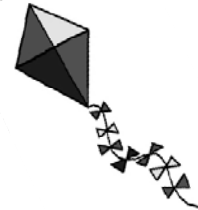
- 10:00 am: opening ceremony of kites
- miniature kite museum showcasing the history of kite making
- kite flying lessons
- Competitions and various cultural performances.
- Kite-making workshop – "make, decorate & take" activities!
- Walk-around characters to provide atmosphere & history
- refreshments available for purchase from local restaurants
- Local kite clubs will provide a parachute bowl race
- Kite Displays

**Cheryl will bring at least 5 kites to fly and we will participate in the "make & take" kite activities as well!**



#### PARKING:

Park as close to "Dog Park" lot as possible.  
Activities will be near the Dog Park area  
Shuttle service to/from UH Sugar Land campus  
Meet at Dog Park area front gate area



**To RSVP and for additional information, please contact Cheryl Sewell at 281-494-5924 or [cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org](mailto:cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org)**

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday!

## Special Education Training for Parents!

Become an informed parent and better advocate for your child with special needs!  
PowerPoint presentation lasts approx. 2 hours. Bring ARD paperwork for individualized Q & A!  
Receive information & handouts to help you navigate the special education maze!

### “Special Ed: The Basics”

**Date:** Thursday - March 18, 2010  
**Time:** 11:30 am to 1:30 pm +  
**Location:** The Arc of Fort Bend  
123 Brooks Street • Sugar Land, TX 77478

+ More individualized Q&A follows presentation



### “Understanding Tests, Measurements, Evals & the Bell Curve”

**Date:** Thursday – April 15, 2010  
**Time:** 11:30 am to 1:30 pm +  
**Location:** The Arc of Fort Bend  
123 Brooks Street • Sugar Land, TX 77478

+ More individualized Q&A follows presentation

### “Developing IEP Goals & Objectives”

**Date:** Thursday - May 20, 2010  
**Time:** 11:30 am to 1:30 pm +  
**Location:** The Arc of Fort Bend  
123 Brooks Street • Sugar Land, TX 77478

+ More individualized Q&A follows presentation

Class size limited to 15 individuals!

To RSVP and for additional information please contact:

**Cheryl Sewell** 281-494-5924 [cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org](mailto:cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org)



Calling all supporters!



**Help THE ARC OF FORT BEND win up to \$5,000 in the Telfair Charity of Your Choice “Charity Challenge!”**

Have a fun, healthy time while you help THE ARC OF FORT BEND win up to \$5,000 in the TelfairLife Charity of Your Choice Walk “Charity Challenge” on Saturday, April 10 in Telfair.

Prizes of \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,500 will be awarded to the top three charities with the **most registered walkers!** In addition, we will also receive 100 percent of the proceeds from registration fees when you select us as your charity of choice.

The Arc is competing with 13 other excellent Fort Bend charities for these three top prizes. Let’s show everyone that THE ARC OF FORT BEND has the most loyal and dedicated supporters in the region!

In its first two years, this terrific event has raised over \$100,000 for the participating charities. TelfairLife hopes to set a new record in 2010, and let’s help them (and ourselves) by signing up more walkers than any other nonprofit!

**Act soon!**

Registration fees are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children until March 31 and increase by \$5.00 on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration is now available at [www.CharityofYourChoiceWalk.com](http://www.CharityofYourChoiceWalk.com). Registrations must be completed by April 6 in order to count toward our challenge total.

Date: **Saturday, April 10, 2010** Rain or Shine!

Team: **The Arc of Fort Bend – “The Arc Amblers”**  
**Captain Cheryl Sewell 281-494-5924**  
[cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org](mailto:cbsewell@arcoffortbend.org) [www.arcoffortbend.org](http://www.arcoffortbend.org)

Location: **Telfair Central Lawn – on University Blvd in Sugar Land.**  
Located in front of the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land.  
Off Highway 59, corner of University Blvd (Flanagan)/New Territory Blvd.

Check in: Registration and check-in will begin at **8:00 a.m.**  
Walk: **9:00 a.m.**  
Post-Walk Party! **10:30 am.**  
featuring family-friendly activities such as clowns, inflatable games, a bungee run and rock-climbing wall, popcorn and snowcones.

Master of Ceremonies: City of Sugar Land Councilwoman Jacquie Chaumette

To register and get more details on the event, please visit [www.CharityofYourChoiceWalk.com](http://www.CharityofYourChoiceWalk.com).

TelfairLife is funded and operated by Telfair homeowners to support social, cultural, charitable, environmental and educational endeavors in Telfair and the surrounding Fort Bend community.





# 3rd Annual CHARITY of your CHOICE WALK

## 2010 Walker Registration Form

Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 2010

\*=Required

\*First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \$25 (\$30 starting April 1<sup>st</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_ Child \$10 (\$15 starting April 1<sup>st</sup>)

Total Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Cash  Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (All checks must be made out to TelfairLife)

**I would like my registration fee to be donated to (please check one):**

Second Mile Mission Center

Fort Bend Family Promise

Pregnancy Resource Center

Fort Bend Education Foundation

The Arc of Fort Bend County

Child Advocates of Fort Bend

Shape Up Sugar Land

Brazos Bend Guardianship Services

Asians Against Domestic Abuse

East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry

Fort Bend Habitat for Humanity

Fort Bend Community Partners Rainbow Room

Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse

NAMI Fort Bend

I am a member of a team of walkers. Team name: **The Arc Amblers**

Preferred T-shirt Size (circle):      S      M      L      XL

Adult sizes. Based on availability.

**CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE WALK RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION**

The Charity of your Choice Walk will take place within the Telfair community (the "Community") portions of which are owned, maintained and/or operated by one or more of the following: Telfair Community Association, Inc., Telfair Commercial Association, Inc., Telfair Community Council, Inc., NNP Telfair, L.P. and Newland Communities, LLC (collectively, "Telfair"). The Charity of Your Choice Walk involves walking - an activity which may include risks such as, but not limited to, falls, interaction with other participants, effects of weather, traffic and conditions of the road. In consideration of being allowed to participate in this event, I agree to assume all risks, including personal injury or death, arising in any way out of my participation in the Charity of your Choice Walk and related activities. It is my responsibility to dress appropriately. Although route maps, rest stops, refreshments, and other assistance may be made available during this event, I am solely responsible for my own health and safety. I represent and warrant to Telfair that I am physically fit and able to participate in this event and I agree to stop and request assistance if I experience any symptoms including, without limitation, dizziness, excessive fatigue, shortness of breath, pain or any other conditions which would make it difficult or unsafe to continue. I acknowledge that Telfair has the right to refuse entry to anyone deemed medically at risk in taking part in this event, or if I commit any injurious or illegal act. As consideration for being allowed to participate in the Charity of Your Choice Walk, I AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, HOLD HARMLESS AND DEFEND THE TELFAIR AND ITS RESPECTIVE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES, VOLUNTEERS, DIRECTORS, SPONSORS, MEMBERS, PARTNERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, PARENTS AND SUBSIDIARIES, FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, DAMAGES, INJURIES, LOSSES, LIENS, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, LIABILITIES AND EXPENSES, INCLUDING COURT COSTS AND ATTORNEY'S FEES OF ANY NATURE, KIND OR DESCRIPTION (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE, INJURIES TO OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON OR ENTITY) ARISING OUT OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE WALK EVEN IF CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE SOLE OR CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE OF TELFAIR AND WHETHER OR NOT SUCH SOLE OR CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE OF TELFAIR WAS ACTIVE OR PASSIVE OR BY ANY MATTER OR THING IN WHICH LIABILITY MIGHT BE IMPOSED. I permit Telfair the free use of my name and likeness in any newsletters, web sites, and other medium or material promoting this event or future events and I relinquish all rights thereto for these purposes. This release and indemnification agreement shall be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by applicable law. If any portion of it is held invalid, the balance shall continue in full force and effect. I agree to pay the fee stated on the registration form and agree that this fee is non-refundable. I agree to supervise, monitor and be responsible for the actions of your children under 18 years of age participating in the event with me and that their participation is subject to all terms and conditions described above. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement on my own behalf and on behalf of any minor children participating with me.

Signature of each walker (Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18yrs. old)

Date

# February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 SO Winter Games	5 SO Winter Games SR - Harlem Globetrotters	6 SO Winter Games Bowling
7 SO Winter Games SR - Mardi Gras Ball	8	9	10	11 Self Advocates Meeting SO - Basketball Practice	12	13 Bowling SO - Basketball
14 SR - Valentine's Dance	15 Arc Board Meeting	16	17	18 SO - Basketball Practice	19	20 Bowling SO - Basketball
21	22	23	24	25 SO - Basketball Practice	26	27 Bowling SO - Basketball
28						

4	SO Winter Games, through 2/7	TBA	Austin
5	SR – Harlem Globetrotters	7:00 p.m.	Toyota Center
6	Bowling	2:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Stafford Lanes
7	SR - Mardi Gras Ball	12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Galveston
11	Self Advocates Meeting	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Sugar Land Employment Center
	SO- Basketball Practice	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	New Hope Lutheran Church
13	Bowling	2:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Stafford Lanes
	SO- Basketball practice or league play	TBA	check with coaches
14	SR – Valentine’s Dance	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Needville Knights of Columbus Hall
15	Arc Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.	The Arc
18	SO-Basketball Practice	7:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.	New Hope Lutheran Church
20	Bowling	2:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Stafford Lanes
	SO- Basketball practice or league play	TBA	check with coaches
25	SO-Basketball Practice	7:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.	New Hope Lutheran Church
27	Bowling	2:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Stafford Lanes
	SO- Basketball practice or league play	TBA	check with coaches



The Arc of Fort Bend County ensures opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to maximize their quality of life within our community.

**Membership Form**      **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate       **New Member**                       **Renewing Member**

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am a:**

- Family Member**                       **Person with Disability**
- Interested Citizen**                 **Professional who works in the Disability Field**

**Indicate the age of person with a disability:**     **0-12**     **13-22**     **23-54**     **55+**

**Optional:**

* Solely to help us know if we are serving our entire community, please check below:		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/ Alaskan Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/ Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Black/ African American
<input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**Preference for Volunteer Opportunities:**

- Committee Member**     **Fund Raising**     **Office Support**     **Special Olympics & Bowling**

**Membership Levels:**

Individual with Disability Membership	<b>\$10.00</b>
Individual Membership	<b>\$25.00</b>
Family Membership    2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Name _____	<b>\$40.00</b>
Corporate Membership	<b>\$100.00</b>
Additional Tax Deductible Donation	<b>\$ _____</b>
If you wish, you may donate to a specific program:	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bowling</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Education/Employment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Self-Advocacy</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Social Recreation</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Special Olympics</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Transportation</b>	
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**Mail form and payment to:**  
The Arc of Fort Bend County  
123 Brooks Street  
Sugar Land, Texas 77478

**OR    Join Online at [www.arcoffortbend.org](http://www.arcoffortbend.org).**

The Arc of Fort Bend County is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

The Arc of Fort Bend County  
123 Brooks Street  
Sugar Land, Texas 77478  
Phone: 281-494-5959  
Fax: 281-494-5960

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Sugar Land TX  
Permit No 19



## Missouri City Mayor's Youth Council

On Monday, January 11, The Arc of Fort Bend County was the featured program at the monthly meeting of the Missouri City Mayor's Youth Council, a leadership development program for youth residing in and attending schools in Missouri City. Missouri City Parks and Recreation staffer Kyle Frye facilitates the Youth Council program meetings. Arc staffer Margo Pasko led a discussion about the programs and services offered by The Arc of Fort Bend County. Special Olympics athletes Corey Cobb, Michael Cushenberry, Ryan Darnell, Laryn Lobue, Russell Smith and Bridget Stephney brought medals and other memorabilia to show and explain to the Council members. They each spoke about what Special Olympics means to them and were proud to share their experiences.

## Calling All Arc Members in Their Twenties!

Calling all Arc members who are in their twenties! You and your family members are invited to be a part of The Arc's TwentySomethings family social networking group. If you are not already on our TwentySomethings mailing list, please call or email Margo Pasko at 281-494-5928 or [mapasko@arcoffortbend.org](mailto:mapasko@arcoffortbend.org)

We're planning a trip to the zoo with Arc TwentySomething families and our community partners, on Saturday, March 6, 2010. On April 10, we're going as a group to the Telfair Charily of Choice walkathon. We're planning a karaoke event for May.

We look forward to hearing from you! Contact Margo for more information.