UPCOMING EVENTS

UNIQUE Call for Artists
Deadline: April 30, 2013
ARISE Offices
Submit your art or literary work for the 2013 UNIQUE Magazine!
671-2909 / uniquemagazine.org

ARISE & Ride for Ramps
Saturday, June 8, 2013
Fort Ontario
Motorcycle, 5K run, and kids’ bike ride to benefit our Oswego Ramp Program!
342-4088 x206 / rideforramps.org

ARISE & Ride at the Farm
Saturday, July 27, 2013
ARISE at the Farm
25- and 12-mile cycle rides and festival in support of recreation for all!
671-4643 / ariseandride.org
The Green Fields of the Mind

I borrowed the title from an essay on baseball by the former Commissioner of Baseball, Bart Giamatti. The Commissioner wrote of his boyhood, when baseball was a game he heard on the radio, and it seemed more alive and dramatic in his imagination than it may have been when viewed directly.

I used the title for two reasons: it mentions the word “green” and it suggests using our imagination and memory to encounter certain realities.

On Monday, March 11, we discovered that a great lover of baseball whose name was “Green,” Peter Green, our longstanding Coordinator of Community Habilitation, had died peacefully in his sleep. We remain in shock.

Peter was a character, as all who knew him would attest. He had spent a typical workday in our Syracuse offices on the previous Friday, finished his laundry, and watched an SU basketball game on Saturday with a dear friend at a favorite pub. He was missed when he did not arrive at work as expected on Monday morning.

And like the game of baseball heard on the radio and therefore played in the “green fields of the mind,” we have all been using our imaginations and memories here at ARISE to help ourselves reflect upon all that Peter was and did.

Peter wasn’t just a boss, he was a friend. When our colleague Risendo joined us in 2003, fresh from Cuba and with some limitations in his use of English, Peter guided him every step of the way to become a very successful and treasured member of our ARISE staff.

When a particular consumer needed 24-hour supports many years ago in order to reach his independence at a time when we did not provide such supports, Peter made it happen.

For hundreds of individuals, their families and their dedicated ARISE workers, Peter “was” ARISE. We were well represented and are now proud to be associated with his legacy.

Tom McKeown
Executive Director
INCLUSIVE AFTER-SCHOOL RESPITE

Over the past few years, we have been pleased to collaborate with local organizations in Onondaga County to increase their employees’ disability awareness and create more inclusive after-school programs.

Through our After-School Respite Program in Onondaga County, children with disabilities are able to have the support of a one-on-one staff person while participating in typical after-school programs. We’ve been thrilled to see the kids thrive in these settings and develop friendships with each other, regardless of their different abilities.

In addition to our after-school programs in Onondaga County, all of our respite programs, including our after-school respite in Madison County and in-home respite in Oswego County, are designed to meet the specific needs of each family.

EXPERIENCING ART AT RESPITE

We are proud to offer a variety of enriching experiences for children with disabilities. Respite helps strengthen family relationships by providing opportunities for parents and caregivers to have rare time for themselves and recharge.

When the children in our Madison County After-School Respite Program expressed an interest in photography, we set up sessions so the kids could not only learn how to use a film camera, they also had the opportunity to practice traditional black and white print development.

The kids enjoyed the unique experience so much that our staff started a Thursday Night Respite Art Club. During the weekly “freelance” art group, the children are provided with a variety of materials and encouraged to unleash their imaginations and just create.

NEWSPHASE

21-Day Challenge Becomes Yearly

After seeing the extraordinary success made by the participants during the first two 21-Day Challenges, we are pleased to announce that it has been added into the annual programming at the Farm. On March 1, four riders began their efforts to jump-start major physical gains in the third 21-Day Challenge by participating in three weeks straight of therapeutic horseback riding lessons. To learn how to make a gift in support of this life-changing program, contact Nancy Kern Kronen at (315) 671-2903 or nkronen@ariseinc.org.

New Social Group for Adults

A new social group was just formed by consumers in Onondaga County. The group allows people to come together and meet each other, socialize, and provide peer support. Contact Beata Karpinska-Prehn, Manager of Advocacy, at (315) 671-2929 or bkarpinska@ariseinc.org to learn more about becoming involved.

UNIQUE Call for Artists

We are currently seeking submissions of art and literary work to be considered for publication in the 2013 UNIQUE magazine. The deadline is April 30, and submission forms are available at all ARISE offices or at uniquemagazine.org. If you have any questions, contact Liz Martin, UNIQUE Managing Editor, at (315) 671-2909 or emartin@ariseinc.org.

Oswego Nutrition Class

In an effort to empower people to reach personal goals of living healthier lives, we recently organized two eight-week classes on nutrition in collaboration with the Cornell Cooperative Extension. After graduating from the class, participants have reported making healthier choices like switching to 1% milk and whole wheat bread. We are proud of the progress they have made in reaching personal goals and look forward to continuing our work to assist people with disabilities achieve success.
WHERE OPPORTUNITY MEETS SUCCESS
Helping People with Disabilities Find Meaningful Employment in the Community

Emile Clark, ARISE Employment Consultant, was delighted when Enterprise Rent-A-Car in East Syracuse expressed interest in becoming an employer through our Supported Employment Program.

The car rental company was looking to find a new service agent and wanted someone who had great customer service skills and could function as part of their team.

Emile knew the perfect person for the job.

Shareef came to ARISE looking for assistance in finding a job. We were confident that with his skills, experience, and interests, he was a natural for the Enterprise position. As a service agent, not only would Shareef be responsible for auto detailing, he would also be interacting with customers as he picked them up and returned their cars.

With an extra layer of support provided by Elaine, his job coach, Shareef started his job in October of 2012 and has been thriving ever since. Elaine just stops by twice a month to check in.

AJ Claflin, the branch manager at Enterprise, fully embraced Shareef right from the start. “We are always looking for great people...no business operates without a great team and Shareef was the part of our team we were missing.”

Claflin adds, “Shareef’s work ethic is unmatched. I don’t have to ask him to do things – he’s always staying busy. Shareef’s care for people is also unmatched. During the huge snow storm, Shareef, without asking, just went out, picked up a shovel, and started digging out our customers’ cars.”

When Shareef was asked what kind of job he was hoping to find, he smiled and simply answered, “This.”

Every day, our employment team works to connect people who have disabilities with meaningful jobs in the community.

To learn more about our employment programs, contact Darlene Klock, Employment Services Manager, at (315) 671-3083 or dklock@ariseinc.org.
What is an early recognition screening and how can it help my child?

Like an annual physical wellness check or vision exam, a mental health screening provides an emotional wellness check that helps identify potential problems before they become more difficult to manage.

Almost every family in America is affected by mental illness in some way. For children, emotional difficulties can carry over and affect their physical health and ability to learn in school.

Through our Early Recognition Screening Program, parents can take action and pro-actively ensure that their child’s emotional and behavioral health needs are being met.

For the screening, parents simply fill out a questionnaire indicating how often their child exhibits certain behaviors. After completing the questionnaire, a licensed ARISE mental health professional scores the screening and presents the results to the parent/guardian.

The confidential screening is not a diagnostic tool. It’s a way to open up communication about emotional wellness.

If the results indicate that your child may have underlying emotional health concerns, our therapists can link your family to services that are appropriate to your child’s current needs.

As we work to reduce stigma and increase access to quality mental health services in our community, we hope you will join us in our efforts to redefine healthy living to include emotional and physical wellness.

To request a free early recognition screening for your child, call or e-mail Rudy Friedberg, ARISE Early Recognition Specialist, at (315) 671-3090 or rfriedberg@ariseinc.org.
ADVOCATING FOR ACCESS IN ALBANY
ARISE Joins with ILCs to Advocate for Equal Rights

ARISE advocates from Onondaga, Oswego, and Madison counties traveled to Albany in February to join with other Independent Living Centers across New York for the annual Legislative Day. Our advocates met with state legislators to share their experiences and open a dialogue about different ways to increase community access for people with disabilities. We presented a variety of concerns and advocated for laws that removed barriers to housing, employment, and transportation.

Currently in New York State, landlords are allowed to discriminate against a tenant based on their source of income. As a result, people who use rental subsidies (like Section 8) are often rejected. Because many people with disabilities rely on those subsides to help pay for affordable and accessible housing, we urged lawmakers to make discrimination against a tenant’s source of income illegal.

We also encouraged our representatives to establish a small business tax credit for employers that hire people with disabilities. Not only would this provide an additional incentive to employers, it would also create more opportunities for people with disabilities to find jobs in the community and achieve self-sufficiency, a benefit for all.

Transportation remains another major barrier for many people with disabilities, especially for those who live in rural communities. We urged our legislators to require the appointment of public transportation riders, including seniors and people with disabilities, to positions on Transit Authority boards of directors. This would help ensure that all local decisions made about public transportation would include and consider the perspective of seniors and people with disabilities.

We look forward to following up with our representatives about these important issues as we continue our work to ensure that people with disabilities are able to live full and independent lives in the community.

“It was a great experience talking with [the Senator] about important programs that help people with disabilities stay as independent as possible.”

- Lorrie Lea, ARISE Community Integration Specialist

Catch pictures from Legislative Day at facebook.com/ARISEcny
IN MY OWN WORDS
Joanne Gardner
ARISE Oswego Advisory Committee Member

I have a deep passion for ARISE and the work they do to help people with disabilities live productive lives. This past February, I had the pleasure of traveling as part of the ARISE group to Albany for Legislative Advocacy Day.

The trip was eventful and the legislators were very welcoming. In fact, they could not have been any more so. We also had a secret weapon with us: Roger Pullen. Roger wins them over. He possesses a certain charisma. Roger is such an inspiration to all of the people whose lives he touches, including my own.

Our ARISE group had the privilege of going into the legislative session and being announced by the Speaker of the House. The legislators that we met were very receptive to our presentation. I feel they will advocate for ARISE but also realize that they do not make the ultimate decision.

At the end of the day I, truly, felt we did make a difference then and will continue to do so every day.

Pictured above: Joanne Gardner with Jim Murabito volunteering at the 2012 Ride for Ramps.

What is an Independent Living Center (ILC)?
Independent Living Centers promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities in the community. And, unlike other organizations, ILCs are run by and for people with disabilities and provide services to people of all ages who have all types of disabilities.

How does an ILC save the state money?
Independent living support services, like the ones we offer at ARISE, are less expensive to provide than having people live in institutions. Because of these programs, people with disabilities are able to avoid having to go into an institutionalized setting OR they are able to move out of those settings and live in their own home.

Since 2001, ILCs across New York have saved the state over $1.2 billion dollars. Just in 2011-2012, ILCs saved over $188 million. And, people with disabilities are able to maintain their independence and have control over their own lives.
We’re excited to share a special opportunity to download a free digital copy of “The Movement,” a documentary on adaptive skiing at http://bit.ly/VESMS4. Just be sure to enter the special code “ARISE.”

ARISE & SKI
Skiers Conquer the Mountain and Reach Personal Goals

For six weeks, 80 participants hit the slopes through ARISE & Ski at Toggenburg and gained new skills as they took on their personal goals with bravery and determination.

For Monica, that meant working toward her goal of skiing independently down the slopes with the bi-ski. Not only did she do it, she was able to enjoy the moment while skiing alongside her father and sister.

For others, like Caleb, this season marked his first time on the slopes. While he was overwhelmed and hesitant to try it at first, we had to pull him off the slopes at the end of each day.

Caleb enjoyed skiing so much, he started excitedly repeating “ki, ki, ki” at school. His teachers asked his parents why he suddenly started doing that and his dad explained that Caleb was learning to ski. When his teachers had a hard time believing it, Caleb’s dad showed them a video to prove it.

Our inclusive winter sports program is only made possible through the continued generosity of the Hickey Family at Toggenburg Mountain Winter Sports Center, NBT Bank, the skilled ski leaders and our volunteers and supporters who make it all happen. We’ll see you on the slopes again next year!
LITERACY ZONE

Connecting People to Community Resources

In 2010, the Syracuse City School District approached ARISE to become a priority partner for the Literacy Zone because of our expertise and experience working with students with disabilities.

The Literacy Zone is a collaboration between the Syracuse City School District and a variety of local agencies. In addition to free GED, ESL, and Adult Basic Education classes, case managers also link Syracuse city residents to resources in the community.

At each Literacy Zone site, an ARISE advocate held disability resource workshops and offered drop-in hours to provide a safe and supportive space for students. During that time, people could come share their personal challenges and get help. Our advocate worked with the students and their families to identify needs, link them to services, and follow up to make sure they were on the way to reaching their goals.

As part of a larger effort to make the program more accessible to students of all abilities, our advocates provided disability awareness training to all new and existing Literacy Zone staff.

While the official grant came to an end in 2012, we remain committed to continuing our partnership to create a supportive and inclusive environment. Not only will we continue to provide informational workshops about local disability resources, we are also looking forward to hosting disability awareness trainings for all new Literacy Zone staff.

IN MEMORY

Remembering Peter Green

Our dear friend, Peter Green, the longtime coordinator of our Community Habilitation Program, passed away at home suddenly on March 11.

Peter was an avid St. Louis Cardinals, Chicago Bears, and SU basketball fan. He was a proud Vietnam veteran and he loved playing golf.

For over eleven years, Peter lit up our offices with his jokes and showed the depth of his compassion through his unwavering commitment to helping individuals and families.

We miss Peter greatly and are comforted to know that his legacy will continue through ARISE and the many lives he touched.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to our community partners and friends, who have recently offered us their support:

- **BNY Mellon Employees** for supporting our inclusive recreation programs by selecting ARISE at the Farm to receive the proceeds from their Employee Chili Cook-off again this year.
- **Constellation Energy** for their continued commitment to the Call-N-Ride program, ensuring Oswego residents have access to transportation.
- **Gentle Outings** for transporting a 300-lb. donated electric wheelchair from our Oswego office to our Syracuse office so one of our consumers could regain mobility and enjoy access to the community.
- **Onondaga Hearing Services** for their generous support to help four riders jump-start major physical gains through the therapeutic 21-Day Challenge at the Farm.

Thanks to some of our wonderful volunteers, who generously shared their time and talent:

- **Matt DiNiro** for installing the beautiful new front doors and windows at the Farm office.
WHY I SUPPORT ARISE
Kim Brown, ARISE Foundation Board Member

My friend and mentor Nancy Kronen first introduced me to ARISE in 2011. She gave me the UNIQUE calendar, which I happily hung on my office wall. The art offered a daily reminder of the incredible abilities a person has regardless of his or her disabilities.

As I became more involved, I helped ARISE build a greater presence on social media. If there’s one thing I am happy to do, it’s tweeting about the great work of @ARISEcny!

Supporting ARISE means making sure that the people I interact with know what ARISE does and, along with me and the countless others who support it, see the opportunities it creates.

To me, ARISE is about endless smiles. It’s about passion. It’s about ensuring that all people are treated equally, no matter if they happen to have a disability.

I remember when I visited ARISE at the Farm for the first time. I was blown away by the warmth of the volunteers and the bright smiles on the face of each and every child.

At the end of the first 21-Day Challenge last year, I watched the documentary with tears in my eyes. I was filled with pride to see what the children had accomplished and the small role I played in making the 21-Day Challenge a reality.

I encourage you to join me in supporting ARISE. Find your passion. Share it with your family and friends. See the abilities in disabilities!

Connect with ARISE online!
facebook.com/ARISEcny
@ARISEcny

IN MY OWN WORDS
Jim Burns, President & Chief Investment Officer
J.W. Burns & Company Investment Counsel

We’ve been proud supporters of UNIQUE Art & Literary Magazine for the past three years. Attending the Opening Night Reception at the Everson offered an experience unlike any other event I’ve attended. As the capacity crowd came together to celebrate the artists and their work, you could actually feel the love that filled the museum. I knew then that I would never forget that night. We will be pleased to support UNIQUE again this year and I look forward to being part of the celebration.

To learn about sponsorship opportunities, contact Nancy Kern Kronen at (315) 671-2903 or nkronen@ariseinc.org.
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We’d like to thank the following individuals and organizations who made donations from December 7, 2012 to March 15, 2013 in support of independence and access for all.

Jennifer Allocco
Alice & Robert Andrews
Nathan Andrews
Anonymous Donors
Carolyn M. Amey
Chris Arnold & Ellen Yeomans
Janine F. Backman
Marcus & Elaina BeVard
Kathy & Gary Blakeman
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Jack & Linda Webb
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Rosemarie Zellers
Thanks to our early sponsors:
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Onondaga Hearing Services
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Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc.
SUNY Oswego
Relph Benefit Advisors
Onondaga Hearing Services

Registration is now available!
Visit ariseinc.org to learn how you can make a difference and get involved.

GIFTS IN TRIBUTE

We’d like to thank the following individuals and organizations who made gifts in memory or in honor of a friend or family member between December 7, 2012 to March 15, 2013.

In Memory of A Dear Friend
Anonymous Donors

In Honor of Beth Barner, Kathy Brandt, Cindy Stogsdill, Christine Ross, Marybeth Marshall, Debbie Hughes, and Michele Jonientz
Tania Anderson

In Memory of Katherine Bendo
Robert & Karen Weeden

In Memory of James Bertram
John C. Bertram

In Memory of John & Nicholas Bosco
Joseph Bosco

In Honor of Tom Brown
Mr. Thomas Brown

In Memory of Frederick Crinnin
Mrs. Frederick Crinnin

In Honor of Dan Dorsey, Dennis Dorsey, and Larry Morgia
Eagle Beverage Co.

In Memory of Ashley M. English
Scott & Linda English

In Honor of Blake Goggin & McKenzie Sayers
Wayne Goggin

In Honor of Derek Grindle
Mr. & Mrs. Horace Backus

In Honor of Kern Siblings
Anonymous Donors
Jan Kern & Tom Grahame

In Memory of Betty Langan
Anonymous Donors

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Jay & Young Lee

In Honor of Connor McHale
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Steve & Bonnie Nee

In Memory of Eileen Pelin
Bear Creek Golf Club
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Norma Swift Fennell
William and Patricia Jacoutot
Bernise Kianese
Michael Magee
Michael & Rosemary Mc Graw

In Memory of Eileen Pelin (ctd.)
Jerome McEvily
Roseanne McGraw & William McCoy
Philip Murphy
Linda J. Onofrio
Spencerport Administrators & Supervisors Association
Spencerport Sports Boosters
Charles & Kathleen Witte
James Zumbo

In Memory of Tom Phinney Jr.
Kimberly Lipke & Eric Sadowski

In Honor of Juliane M. Vaquero
Ann & Anthony Vaquero

In Honor of Christopher Weiss
Karen Vedder

In Honor of Donald “Dad” Zellers
Tony & Pamela Nicoletti
About Us
We are a non-profit, community based organization run by and for people with disabilities.

Through over 50 programs, we provide a wide range of services that promote the social, educational, economic, and individual interests of people with disabilities.

Our Locations
Onondaga County/Main Office
635 James Street
Syracuse, NY 13203
Voice: (315) 472-3171
TTY: (315) 479-6363

Oswego County Office
9 Fourth Avenue
Oswego, NY 13126
Voice: (315) 342-4088
TTY: (315) 342-8696

Pulaski Office
2 Broad Street
Pulaski, NY 13142
Voice: (315) 298-5726

Fulton Office
113 Schuyler Street, Suite 2
Fulton, NY 13069
Voice: (315) 887-5156

Madison County Office
131 Main Street, Suite 107
Oneida, NY 13421
Voice: (315) 363-4672
TTY: (315) 363-2364

ARISE at the Farm
1972 New Boston Rd
Chittenango, NY 13037
Voice: (315) 687-6727

ariseinc.org

Our mission is to work with **people of all abilities** to create a fair and just community in which **everyone** can fully participate.

Join us in congratulating our ARISE Foundation Board Members, Agnes and Ed, who were recently honored for their contributions to the community!

Agnes McCray
WCNY Women Who Make America Award

Lt. Col. Edward Cook
Col. Gouverneur Morris Citizen Soldier Award, Army Achievement Medal, and Leadership Greater Syracuse Alumni Achievement Award

Portions of this publication are available in alternative formats.