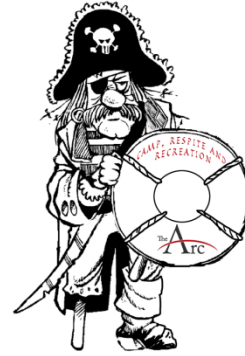




For Immediate Release

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16 February 2010

Ahoy Mateys!

Don't Miss The Arc of New London County's Annual Pirate Party

Mystic, CT - The Arc of New London County will host Southeastern Connecticut's Third Annual Pirate Party on Saturday, April 24, 2010, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Mystic Arts Center. Proceeds support The Arc's Respite, Recreation and Camp Harkness programs. "These programs are costly to run, and they are the ones most vulnerable to funding cuts," says Kathleen Stauffer, executive director. "While enjoying a night of fine food and a quality silent auction, you can make a significant difference in a local family's life."

"This event raises funds to provide families with a much-needed break in caring for their child with a disability," says Event Chairperson Karen DiSaia, a local businesswoman and parent of a young man with disabilities. "A week at Camp, a weekend of Respite with a trained provider or an opportunity for their child to occasionally recreate with peers, improves the quality of life for all family members. Because these programs receive little if any state or governmental support, our Board of Directors decided to do something to ensure that these programs will continue to operate and remain affordable to families."

Don't miss a catered evening with music from Boat Cake, chantey songs by Pirate entertainers, as well as a silent auction featuring Disney passes, sports memorabilia, pro-golf tour tickets, concert tickets and more. Retired Arc of New London County Executive Director Tom Sullivan will serve as this year's Honorary Chair. Event Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door.

"Captain" sponsors include The Mohegan Tribe and Chelsea Groton Savings Bank. For tickets call 860-889-4435 ext. 116 or visit www.thearcnlc.org.

NOTE: The Arc of New London County is New London County's agency of choice for many people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities. Located at 125 Sachem Street in Norwich, Connecticut, The Arc was established in 1952 by parents of children with intellectual disabilities to serve the citizens of New London County. Board of Directors: Diane Aubin, President; Enrico DeMatto, Vice President; Catherine Steel, Secretary; John Fournier, Treasurer; Jessica Clark, Client Representative; Members: Karen DiSaia, Emily Fournier, Deborah Gregoire, Joanne Kerr, Alan Messier, Tom Reynolds, Linda Rhodes. Immediate Past President: Shannon Aiello.