

Join us for an incredible evening to kick-off  
Jewels & Jeans GOES WILDER! Dinner, Auction & Casino

Friday, September 23, 2011  
6:30 PM WILD Gift Gathering Party  
7:15 PM WILD Party Cruise Sets Sail  
Exclusively for J&J Sponsors\*



*festive celebrations on the intracoastal*  
3238 Casseekey Island Road  
Jonathan's Landing Marina, Jupiter

**Party Access: Donate a \$50 Gift Card to Your  
Favorite Restaurant, Boutique or Spa  
or Bring a New Item Valued at \$100 or more.**

*\*Sponsorship Opportunities are Still Available,  
Don't Miss Your Chance to  
Set Sail on the WILD Party Cruise.*

## Save the Date: **JEWELS & JEANS GOES WILDER**

Saturday, November 12  
The National Croquet Center  
Purchase Your Table in September to Receive a  
Complimentary 1/2 Page Ad in the Program Book

*Help us reach our goal to be 100% underwritten!  
All proceeds go directly to the mission  
and 13 programs throughout Palm Beach County that  
The Arc supports for children and adults with  
developmental disabilities and their families.*

[www.arcpsc.org](http://www.arcpsc.org)

RSVP for both events to Kimberly McCarten  
561-842-3213 / [kmccarten@arcpsc.org](mailto:kmccarten@arcpsc.org)



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# AWARENESS Quarterly

*Since 1958, supporting services, education and advocacy for  
children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families*

## Next Chapter Book Clubs A Growing Presence in PBC

Next Chapter Book Clubs (NCBC) are a phenomenon that began with two reading groups in Columbus, Ohio in 2002 and today number more than 175 in the U.S., Canada and Germany. The Arc of Palm Beach County was selected by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council last year to pilot this exciting new model for social connectedness, community inclusion and literacy learning. There are presently NCBC groups in Jupiter, Lake Park, and Wellington, with two additional groups forming now in the Boca Raton area.

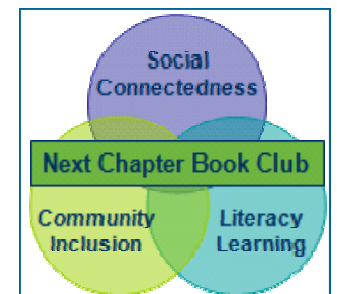


Donna Maheady, mother of a book club participant, writes, "Book Club is so much more than the opportunity to participate in reading a book. Book Club is an opportunity for Lauren to meet friends and enjoy a soda in a

natural, community setting. Her speech and social skills have improved as well. Lauren looks forward to book club day--eagerly gets her backpack and says "GO!" She concludes, "Book Club rocks!" For information about

*Abby Thorne, volunteer facilitator for the Lake Park NCBC, shares a chapter from the first Harry Potter novel with participant Sheila T. at the local Panera Bread café. Meeting in community settings like book stores and cafes is an integral component of the NCBC philosophy and practice.*

volunteering as a facilitator or about forming or joining a club, please contact **Emily Sandquist**, Director of The Arc of Palm Beach County's Family Support Services, at 561-842-3213; [esandquist@arcpsc.org](mailto:esandquist@arcpsc.org).



## Summer Campers Putting on the Ritz Again this Year!

Eighteen summer campers enjoyed a third annual specialty week at The Ritz-Carlton in Jupiter. Club pros and chefs in tennis, golf, arts & crafts, swimming and cooking treated the Arc kids to a highly memorable experience.



*Thank you Ritz-Carlton!*

1201 Australian Avenue  
Riviera Beach, FL 33404  
[www.arcpsc.org](http://www.arcpsc.org)



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Permit No. 226



Back Row (left to right): Ruth Acosta, Team Lead; Erin Kline, Developmental Specialist; Gretchen Rauch-Herron, Program Director; Judite Souto, Developmental Specialist; Janet Gros, Developmental Specialist; Jasmine Dieudonne, Developmental Specialist; Helen Gartner-Davis, Administrative Assistant; Vanessa Silveira, Developmental Specialist; Martine Jolicoeur, Team Lead  
 Front Row (left to right): Maria Estevez, Developmental Specialist; Ushina Perez, Developmental Specialist; Alexis Blau, Developmental Specialist

First Step to Success has grown! The Arc of Palm Beach County's in-home disability prevention program has grown from a staff of 3.5 in 2009 to 12 full-time positions today. First Step Team Members serve families with at-risk children between birth and 5 years of age throughout Palm Beach County.

Step to Success is funded by Palm Beach County's Children's Services Council as a part of its Healthy Beginnings System of Care. For information, please call 561-842-3213 or go to [www.arcpbc.org](http://www.arcpbc.org).



Pregnant? Have a baby? Raising a young child? Then **Healthy Beginnings** is for you.

Healthy Beginnings offers free services to eligible families so children are born healthy, grow up safe and enter school ready to learn.

Services may include:

- Access to medical care
- Nutrition information
- Childbirth education
- Breastfeeding support
- Home visits
- Parent-child bonding
- Child development screening
- Counseling
- Links to other services

One Number, One Call. Call 888-634-7900

Healthy Beginnings is for you.

## The Arc's PAVE Artists to Enhance Intracoastal Family Office of Capital Guardian

Brent Crippen's Eagle Scout project has grown to mix his sense of true community spirit with a special appreciation for fine arts produced by students of The Arc's PAVE (Progressive Adult Vocational Education) program. Brent will team with his fellow scouts at Boy Scouts of America and The Arc's PAVE adult artists to create fine art displays for the lobby of the Intracoastal Family Office at Capital

Guardian in Phillips Point, downtown West Palm Beach. A celebration to unveil the decorated lobby will spotlight this high ranking leadership project and Brent's incredible personal journey on December 7. "This is just one of many projects The Arc and IFO at CG will create together as we welcome them as the first corporate partners in our Leaders Circle," announced Arc Executive

Director Michael Papa. Watch for more exciting news about our new

Leaders Circle on The Arc's website, [www.arcpbc.org](http://www.arcpbc.org).



## First Day of School at Potentials is Full of Smiles

Twenty-eight students from across Palm Beach County enjoyed their first day of school August 22. Teachers and therapists appreciated an enthusiastic parent orientation meeting on the evening of August 18th and Open House with all Arc programs featured on September 1st.

Probably most exciting for the students is the arrival of Tippy the Therapy Dog who will be a regular part of Occupational Therapy every day. Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) is recognized as highly beneficial in motivating children in achieving therapeutic objectives.



## Arc Florida Conference in West Palm This Fall = A Great Chance for Area Self-Advocates & their Families to Attend



Featuring a theme of *Superheroes*, Arc Florida is holding its 58th Annual Conference at the Crowne Plaza hotel in West Palm Beach from October 5-7, 2011.

Following an opening reception at City Place's B.B. King's Blues Club Wednesday night (with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres stations and free cover to the club), the conference begins in earnest with a plenary session at 9 a.m. Thursday. Breakout sessions for the rest of Thursday and Friday feature:

• Is Man's Best Friend Right for You? (Service Dogs) - **Self Advocates**

- Alternatives to Behavioral Crisis (multiple consecutive sessions) - **Direct Support Professionals/ Family Members**
- McKay Scholarships - Let's Get Started - **Executive Directors / Board Members**
- People First Self Advocacy Groups - **Self Advocates**
- Waitlist Litigation, Where Will It Lead Us? - **Executive Directors / Board Members**
- Improving Florida's Residential Care - **Executive Directors/ Board Members**
- The Political Process and How It Works - **Executive Directors / Board Members**

There are excursions for self-advocates to such venues as Lion Country Safari or the Palm Beach Zoo offered for a small fee.

Conference tickets are \$125 (\$75 for self-advocates).

Tickets to the opening reception are \$30; price includes free cover for the week at B.B. King's, more than 20 City Place discount coupons (including a free drink at B.B. King's), plus a free dessert if you decide to have dinner after the reception at B.B. King's.

To register or for more information go to [www.arcflorida.org](http://www.arcflorida.org) and click on "register now."