The Arc of Hanover Opens Thrift Store

The opening of the Arc of Hanover Thrift Store began with a vision from a board member several years ago. On April 23, 2022, that vision became a reality when the grand opening took place at the old Green Top Sporting Goods store located at 10193 Washington Highway. That day brought in hundreds of members from the community along with live music from “That Dog Bite” and “Dark Blue Paradox,” food trucks, face paintings, a bounce house, and many other fun activities for family and friends. The store continues to thrive.

The upscale thrift store is comprised of approximately 7,000 square feet of retail space, additional warehouse space for inventory, and office and storage space for the Tools 4 Teachers program that we began a partnership with. All items in the store are donated either by community members or local businesses or come from local television and movie sets. Some of the items received are from the movie sets of “The Walking Dead,” “Dopesick,” and “Raymond and Ray.”

The store hours are Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m.—6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.—5 p.m. Volunteers are needed at the store for a multitude of duties. Those duties include register operation, greeters, baggers, prepping merchandise for the floor, receiving donations, item repair, inventory shuffling, maintenance, and much more.

This venture could not have been successful without the support of Brenda and Tommy Eggleston and Hopkins Properties II, LLC. All proceeds supports operational needs and a variety of programs for The Arc of Hanover. Thank you for your support!
Dear Members,

I am writing to convey to you my very best wishes and sincere thanks to all of you as we wrap up an eventful 2022 and shift our momentum to the next calendar year. The last twelve months have been marked by noteworthy achievements and many challenging changes. As we reflect on the past year, I believe that we have many reasons to have enormous pride in our accomplishments and look forward with excitement and enthusiasm to 2023.

Our most noteworthy accomplishment has been the opening of The Arc of Hanover Thrift Store at 10193 Washington Highway. Many of you are familiar with this location as it is often referred to as “the old Green Top location.” The store opened with much fanfare and celebration on April 23. I am very pleased to advise our members this endeavor has exceeded our expectations in many ways: revenue, donations, outreach, and much needed visibility for The Arc of Hanover. Special recognition is given to Rickey Dandridge, Marcella Wright and Teelo Rutledge for their dedication to the store’s opening and continued operation. Please continue to help us promote and support our store so that we may continue to fund the mission of The Arc of Hanover.

In addition to the store opening, we have been able to provide other programming opportunities for our members, fostered and gained partnerships with other organizations, some of which are highlighted in this year-end newsletter.

Our third dance was a holiday dance in December. This dance was, again, very well attended with about 40 dancers. Attendees were delighted by an ugly sweater contest, hot cocoa, candy canes and cookies. Special guests Santa Claus and his elf kept dancers entertained with a special reading of *The Night Before Christmas*, and an encore reading of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Many thanks to Sheriff David Hines and the Hanover Sheriff’s Office for continued support and partnership with the success of this Christmas event.

We are looking forward to many more dancing opportunities at Ashland Dance Academy in the upcoming year.

With very best wishes,
Pamela Bishop
President – The Arc of Hanover
The Arc of Hanover is excited to announce Monday, May 22, 2023, as the date for this year’s Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament event being hosted at The Federal Club at 13450 Palmers Way in western Hanover County.

Golfers, teams, sponsors, supporters, and volunteers are all needed for another successful fundraising event. Last year the tournament filled within thirty days of release.

Additional information, registration, and sponsor forms can be obtained by contacting Rickey Dandridge (804) 310-5452, Pam Bishop (804) 363-7981, or www.thearcofhanover.org

Christmas dance was full of Santa and elf stories, dance and plain old fun.
2023 Legislative Agenda

Each year The Arc of Virginia with its chapters, members and partners, develops a legislative agenda to make improvements to the systems of support for people with developmental disabilities. Partnering with statewide self-advocate and family organizations enables us to bring together hundreds of voices with a united message for our elected representatives.

The 2023 Legislative Agenda consists of the following:

Increase Peer Mentoring Rate

Peer Mentoring was the only direct service left out of last year’s DD Waiver Rate increase and must be increased to maintained parity with other DD Waiver Services.

Combine Spending CAPS for AT/EHBS

*The current budget caps for Assistive Technology (AT) and Electronic Home-Base Services (EHBS) are too low per service to provide adequate access to modernized, specialized technology necessary to increase abilities.

*This legislation is based on one of the recommendations identified by the 2021 Virtual Support Workgroup.

Address DD Medicaid Waiver Eligibility Risks Based on Income Limits

Advocates are working with Stakeholders to design solutions that can help the most people.

Ensure Public Participation Access to Virtual Meetings

Public meetings, including those public commissions, boards, and work groups where citizens are appointed, must include full virtual access for equitable participation, including for voting on agenda items.

Remove “Handicap” Terminology from Virginia Code

Language reflects how we value people and should be updated to affirm Virginia’s respect of and for people with disabilities.

Hanover County Sheriff’s Office Food Drive

The Hanover Sheriff’s Office partnered with The Arc of Hanover, Wegmans, and our community to collect food items for citizens in need this holiday season. The event was held at The Arc of Hanover Thrift Store on December 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Non-perishable food items and store gift cards were collected. Items were then donated to food pantries throughout the county.

Arc Partners with Hanover Tools 4 Teachers

Arc’s partnership with Tools 4 Teachers (T4T) was created through Kristina Yager, the then-Youth Services Counsel Coordinator with Hanover Community Resources. Arc donated office and shared space to accommodate storage.

The Tools 4 Teachers program delivers free supplemental school supplies to middle school teachers for use in their classrooms. In the upcoming year, T4T is expected to expand to additional grade levels throughout the county.

Partnerships with Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Function (MCEF), Ashland Christian Emergency Services (ACES), and Hanover County Public Schools (HCPS) has made this program a success.
Then there were the “ooohs,” “aahhs,” “wows,” and “awesomes” that were in abundance.

We want to thank all of our partners that helped make this successful by donating the transportation, food, snacks, and drinks.

Secretariat, Movie Night, and Book Club

In commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Secretariat – the most famous thoroughbred in history, The Arc of Hanover Book Club hosted the showing of the Disney movie in conjunction with reading the book “The Big Red Horse – The Story of Secretariat.” Book club members met weekly and read “Big Red” over a two-month period and capped off the book reading with a private showing of “Secretariat – the Movie” at the Ashland Theatre, 205 England Street, Ashland.

Funding for the purchase of the books, licensing for the movie, and rental of the theater was provided by a generous donation from the Chenery Foundation to The Arc of Hanover.

Thanks to yet another partnership with the Ashland Theatre, General Manager Courtney Caldwell coordinated obtaining the movie and had the concession stands open for all to enjoy refreshments during the evening. Laughs, tears and ultimately loud cheers of “Go, go, go!” and applause were heard throughout the theatre. If you haven’t seen the movie, you are missing out!

The evening was attended by Book Club members and their guests, with about 55 in attendance. The Arc of Hanover extends many thanks to Marcella Wright and Kim Dye for their hosting and oversight of the Book Club.
Upcoming Events

February 6 – Book Club begins for 8 weeks—Ashland Library

February 11 – Salt Fish Breakfast - Independence Ruritan Club 6:45-8:45 a.m. (all proceeds go to The Arc of Hanover)

February 24-25 – Board of Directors Retreat

March 11 - Saturday Afternoon (2:00pm) at the movies featuring “The Champions” with Woody Harrelson (Ashland Theater)

May 6 - Shady Grove UMC Picnic (Food, games, & fun—rain or shine)

May 21 – Fishing @ Cavalier R & P Club (rain date 5/28) (picnic and fishing—everything provided)

May 22 – Arc Annual Golf Tournament @ The Federal Club

The Arc of Hanover strives to fulfill its mission—to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities of all ages and promote their inclusion and participation in our community throughout their lives. The Arc of Hanover continues to improve the quality of life for people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc team is committed to providing resource navigation, respite opportunities, influencing public policy, and inspiring our community to support our organizational objectives. We strive to provide our services to children, adults, and their families so they may become productive citizens living A Life Like Yours.

The Arc of Hanover
P. O. Box 91
Ashland, Virginia 23005
Phone: (804) 798-2400
E-mail: info@thearcofhanover.org
Website: www.info@thearcofhanover.org
Facebook: The Arc of Hanover.org
PayPal: www.thearcofhanover.org

The Arc of Hanover Thrift Store
10193 Washington Highway
Glen Allen, Virginia 23059
Phone: (804) 299-2934
E-mail: thrift@thearcofhanover.org
Facebook: The Arc of Hanover Thrift