



Tuesday Morning Memo

Friday, May 8, 2009

Please share these Tuesday Morning Memos with anyone that might be interested. To subscribe or unsubscribe, or submit information to include in these memos, please send an e-mail to arcwjim@att.net.

- **ALERT ON PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR NON-PROFITS**

Regular visitors to the “What’s New” section of The Arc-Wisconsin website are aware that the City of Madison has been forced, by state law, to deny exemptions on several properties owned by non-profit organizations. Without action by the state legislature, the denial of exemptions on properties owned by non-profits will likely mushroom across the state, especially at this time when every government entity is scrambling for revenue. This could have a very negative impact on houses and multi-family units where people on fixed incomes live. This could also have a very negative impact on any non-profit that leases space from another non-profit.

What can advocates do? The Arc-WI will send out alerts related to this issue. Things will likely move very quickly, so time is of the essence. There will be a rally in support of maintaining the property tax-exemption for non-profits on Tuesday, May 12 at noon at the King Street entrance of the Capitol in Madison.

On Friday, May 15, Forward Community Investments is hosting a seminar entitled, “Threats to Nonprofit Property Tax Exemption: It’s Not Only About Affordable Housing”. The bring-your-own-lunch event will take place from noon to 1:30 pm in the Evjue Room of the Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St., Madison, 53704. You must RSVP for this event by contacting Mike Sweitzer-Beckman of Forward Community Investments at (608) 257-3863 or mikeb@forwardci.org.

- **THE ARC NETWORK IN WISCONSIN MOURNS THE LOSS OF A BELOVED MEMBER**

Dolores “Dea” Hobbs passed away on April 29, 2009. Dea was a truly magnificent woman and an incredible advocate for people with special needs. For many years, she shared her gift for teaching with countless special needs students and their families. In more recent years, Dea was often found helping out at the many events of The Arc-Dane County, where her husband, Ken, served as Executive Director. The thoughts and prayers of The Arc network in Wisconsin go out to Ken, Sean, other family members and friends of Dea.

Editors note: I will always cherish the last time that I had the opportunity to spend a fair amount of time with Dea. Dea, Ken and I golfed as a threesome at The Arc of Fond du Lac golf outing. We had a wonderful time talking and actually golfing pretty well. In fact, we were all “on fire” with many pars and even a birdie or two. jh

Several Arc members have already made contributions to The Arc-Dane County in memory of Dea. If you would like to do the same, please send your contribution to:

The Arc-Dane County
6602 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719

- **LOOK FOR CAPITOL UPDATES FROM THE ARC-WISCONSIN**

As we near the “frenzy” period of the state budget process and the beginning of the 2010 gubernatorial race, there will be much activity in the public policy arena. With that in mind, The Arc-Wisconsin will be sending out a bi-weekly (at least) update on political activities and events that impact people with developmental disabilities. Look for the first issue soon. Everyone on the Tuesday Morning Memo distribution list will also receive the Capitol Update.