

Volume 8
Issue 1
Quarterly
Newsletter
June/July/August

Dinner Dance News

The Center of Hope Dinner Dance cost has increased. These price changes are currently in effect:
\$7.00 dinner and dancing
\$3.00 for dancing only

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Hope's Notes

Southern Worcester County ARC, Inc.

Southern Worcester County ARC (Center of Hope), the South Valley DMR Advisory Board, and the Central Mass Providers Confederation cordially invite the public to their

Annual Legislative Breakfast

Wednesday, June 10th, 2009

9:30 a.m. | 11:30 am

**Hogan Campus Center, Holy Cross College,
Worcester, Mass.**

**PLEASE RSVP at (508) 764-4085 by June 1st
Donations accepted towards cost**

Featured Speaker:

*** Recognition & Awards of People in Central Mass Area**



*** Presentations about Highest Legislative Priority Issues for people with disabilities**

Speaker of the House, Robert DeLeo

All Advocates for People with Disabilities are urged to attend. Our Voices can be heard. The Legislators from our 46 town area are invited, too. You are urged to encourage their attendance, as well as your neighbors and friends.

We must show them how important our services are to the people we serve!

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Hamilton Street home but in February the coffee and book store loaded boxes and moved one street over to 100 Central Street. Stop in and visit the spacious new location which offers free Wi-Fi and computer access.

Honest Town Postal Center

Honest Town Postal Center has been located at 12 Crane Street since opening in the summer of 2008. This business offers packaging, shipping and private mailbox services. For a fee comparable to the USPS, mailbox customers address appears as a street address allowing the receipt of packages from Fed Ex and UPS. At Honest Town customers receive e-mail or phone confirmation when a package arrives and it will be kept in a secure place until pick-up.

Hope Grows, Naturally Grown Produce

The Center of Hope is excited to start its new business, an organic produce farm. We are leasing three acres of prime organic fields from a local citizen in Sturbridge. We will participate in the Mass Turnpike farmer's market.

A great feature to this venture is that it is being operated as a community supported agriculture (CSA) farm, a concept that started 30 years ago in Japan. Hope Grows, Naturally Grown Produce will offer 15 shares into the CSA program at \$400 each. With this purchase Hope Grows, Naturally Grown Produce is committed to providing share holders produce for a 16 week time period starting the week of June 14th and running until the last week in September. The purchase of a share will give you 3/4 of a bushel (12x20x7 box) of the current vegetables that have been picked by our program members. Each share will typically represent an assortment of the produce that has been harvested in that given week.

The produce will be available to be picked up on a designated day each week. The produce that will be grown this first year includes: beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, chard, cucumbers, eggplant, green beans, peppers, pumpkins, radishes, spinach, squash varieties including butternut, summer and winter, tomatoes, cherry tomatoes and zucchini.

For further information or to inquire about purchasing a share, contact Judi Nelson Greenman at 508-764-4085 or info@thecenterofhope.org.

New Business partnership with Inquiry Systems

The Center of Hope has established a relationship with Inquiry Systems, owned by Mark Carron, which is providing production work; sorting, assembling, bundling and delivering products. With the development of this partnership the Center is expecting much growth in its vocational program.

Center of Hope Recreational Summer Programs



Fishing - Team Hook, Line and Sinker

\$60.00 (includes t-shirt, bait and transportation) (additional fees may apply for State Games)

Practices will be held on Wednesdays from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. at Westville Dam starting at the end of May. Transportation will be provided from programs to Westville Dam. Transportation is not available for athletes after practice. All athletes must have their own transportation arrangements home after each practice. A fishing license is required for all athletes. We will assist athletes in obtaining their license if needed. Athletes are encouraged to have their own fishing equipment, however, there is equipment available for use. If you have any questions or would like to join the team contact Ryan Thompson at 508-764-4085

Softball

\$60.00 (includes t-shirt, hat and transportation) (additional fees may apply for State Games)

The Center of Hope started holding tryouts for its softball teams on May 19. Players with and without disabilities are encouraged to try out. If you would like to join one of our teams call Monique Chapdelaine at 508-764-4085 for more information.



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and have their wages paid through the Workforce Investment Act
young person who would like to work this summer and gain valuable
what you are looking for.

The Worcester Community Action Council, in collaboration with the Central Massachusetts Regional Employment Board, the Workforce Central Career Center, the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, and the Center of Hope is seeking meaningful summer employment opportunities for Youth & Young Adults in Central Massachusetts, ages 16-24, who meet the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) guidelines.

For more information about employing a youth or signing up a youth in Southbridge or its surrounding 10 communities: please call Lucille Langlois at 508-764-4085 ext. 648 or e-mail llanglois@thecenterofhope.org.

For further information on the program please visit www.wcac.net or follow the link provided on the Center of Hope's site, www.thecenterofhope.org

Generous Community Members donate to the Center

Over the past several months the Center of Hope has been the recipient of three significant donations given by local community members. Wal-mart donated \$2,000 towards the reopening of the agency's food bank which provides food assistants to more than 25 local community members monthly. The Hoyt Foundation made a \$5,000 donation to the children's program run by the Center. This money helped provide the program with new skills training material, sporting equipment with the remainder providing summer recreation program scholarships. The family of Anita Anderson, co-founder of the Center of Hope, donated more than \$3,000 to provide summer recreation program scholarships for children who would otherwise be home alone for the summer or cause families to stop working to care for their child.



Ed Anderson (left) presents a check to Jim Howard, Executive Director

Upcoming Events— view all at www.thecenterofhope.org

Family Festival Scheduled for June

June 14th, 2009

12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Hyland's Orchard and Brewery,
Arnold Road, Sturbridge

Come spend a beautiful day with family, friends, your community and us as we enjoy live music from area bands, brewery tours and wagon rides.

Poker Run Rides on in July

Sunday, July 19th, 2009.

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m.

Join the Central Mass Gatekeepers as they ride to raise much needed funds to provide summer programs for children and young adults with disabilities.

Golf Tournament Swings into August

3rd Annual Golf Tournament

Wednesday, August 19th, 2008

Pine Ridge Country Club, Oxford, Mass.

Registration opens at 7:30 a.m.

If you are interested in learning more please contact Marie Barse, Tournament Director, at 508-764-4085 or mbarse@thecenterofhope.org

Jane Baron Memorial Scholarship

In May of 2008, the Center of Hope lost a dear friend. In Jane's memory her parents, the Ted and Carol Baron of Dudley along with the Center of Hope have set up the Jane Baron Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund allows Jane's fellow program members to participate in community outings, something Jane loved but not all of her friends could afford. Eighty Ates Bar & Grille has teamed up to support this great cause. On the last Sunday in June, July and August Eighty Ates will donate 20% from each dining check from breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Patrons must present the coupon in order for a portion of their check to go into the fund. Additional coupons will be available at the Center of Hope or can be printed off our website at www.thecenterofhope.org.

Help us to honor the life of Jane and support the memorial fund.

JANE BARON MEMORIAL FUND

DAYS AT EIGHTY ATES

Helping Those in Need At
the Center of Hope, Southbridge, Mass.



20 % of entire dining check (Food and/or Drinks)

excluding tax & tip will be donated when this coupon is

presented on any of the following Sundays

June 28, July 26, August 30, 2009

Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

Eighty Ates Bar & Grille
8 Airport Road
Dudley, Mass.
508-949-8888
www.eightyates.com



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Center of Hope 2009 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Time
June 10	Legislative Breakfast	Hogan Campus Center, Holy Cross	9:30-11:30 a.m.
June 14	Family Festival	Hyland's Orchard and Brewery	12:00-6:00 p.m.
June 28	Jane Baron Memorial Scholarship Dinner	Eighty Ates Bar & Grille, Dudley	8:00 - Closing
July 19	5th Annual Poker Run	Knights of Columbus, Southbridge	Registration 9:00-11:00 a.m.
July 26	Jane Baron Memorial Scholarship Dinner	Eighty Ates Bar & Grille, Dudley	8:00 - Closing
August 19	3rd Annual Golf Tournament	Pine Ridge Country Club	Registration 8:00 a.m.
August 30	Jane Baron Memorial Scholarship Dinner	Eighty Ates Bar & Grille, Dudley	8:00 - Closing
September 18	Dinner Dance	VFW, Southbridge	6:30-9:30 p.m.
October 23	Halloween Dinner Dance	VFW, Southbridge	6:30-9:30 p.m.
October 25	Halloween Dance	Knights of Columbus, Oxford	TBA
November 13	Talents & Treasures Charity Auction	TBA	5:00-10:00 p.m.
November 22	Gobble Gobble 5/10K and Walk	Center of Hope	Registration 8:45 a.m.
December 11	Christmas Party Dinner Dance	VFW, Southbridge	6:30-9:30 p.m.

Reservations are required for all Dinner Dances one week prior to dance. RSVP to Pauline at 508-764-4085.