



OPEN ARMS SHELTER

Changing Lives

Nov 2011

Volume 1 Issue 23

Shelter Welcomes New Director

The Board, kids and staff at the shelter are excited to introduce you to our new executive director, Nancy Hamlin. We also want to share with you how she graced our doorsteps and the ties she has to Lonoke and its surrounding area.

Nancy has been married to Richard Hamlin, Pastor of Sharon Baptist Church in Benton, for 33 years. They have five grown children and three grandkids. Years before moving to Benton, Nancy and her family lived in Hazen, where her husband was a pastor and she taught school. She also taught school in Clarendon, Magnet Cove, Missouri, and was director of their church daycare in Branson where they lived for ten years.

Not only does she have a teaching degree, but she also holds a Masters degree in Marriage and Family Therapy with an emphasis in Community Counseling. Before joining us, Nancy was the regional director for a school-based mental health program for children with Baptist Health in Little Rock. As this 4-year program came to a close, Nancy says the job with Open Arms sort of chose her.

“One goal in closing out the program at Baptist was to help the 56 employees working with me to find jobs or careers that would best fit their families’ needs. Many were single, new or soon to be parents who needed positions that would allow them to be involved in their own children’s lives. One therapist and his wife were expecting their first child, and he had applied for the director’s position at Open Arms, but found a position closer to his family. He encouraged me to apply for the position at Open Arms.”

When Nancy called about the position, she realized she had connections with Karen Knox, a volunteer at the shelter and founder of the Wade Know Child Advocacy Center. She taught school with one of Karen’s sisters and another sister babysat Nancy’s young children; both attended church where her husband pastored. She also knew teachers that now work in the Lonoke School District, and Brian Baldwin, a volunteer at the shelter and youth minister at New Testament Missionary Baptist Church in Lonoke who currently attends the seminary where her husband teaches.

Good recommendations started flooding in and the board sought an interview. Board President Merritt Holman says, “Nancy has a lot of experience with children and teens through her work teaching and counseling. Furthermore, she has extensive experience supervising and managing staff, finances, marketing and developing new programs. We feel she will be a great asset to the shelter for many years to come.”

One of Nancy’s strengths is her love for children. She has always sought out ways to help children of all ages through her work, school and church. She says, “I heard this statement one time and it made a profound difference in my life... ‘The way to change the world is to love a child who is not your own.’”

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Nancy also shared that it has been a blessing for her to come to work at a place with such an amazing staff team where she has witnessed their dedication and love for the kids they are serving.

We at the shelter hope you will help us welcome Nancy Hamlin as she continues to build on the important work of the shelter and helps develop our new long-term care program. Feel free to stop by the shelter and meet Nancy or call her to schedule a time for her to come speak to your church, community group or club.



Nancy Hamlin, OAS Executive Director

“Serving abused and neglected children for 25 years”

OPEN ARMS SHELTER

Christmas at the Shelter



Please consider helping out the shelter and the special kids that call it home this Christmas. With the addition of the new wing and more kids, our wish list has grown. So check out our wish list and look on the back page for a list of needed food and grocery items.

KITCHEN

Potholders
 Dish Towels – Absorbent
 Dish Cloths
 Scrub brushes
 Towels
 Cookie Sheets – Industrial
 Pots and Pans – Industrial
 Muffin Pans
 Waffle Iron
 Skillets - All sizes, especially extra-large
 Knives for Food Preparation
 Drink Pitchers for Cool-aid
 Dishwashing Liquid
 Sponge Mop
 Bread-maker and Yeast
 Foam Mat for Dishwashing Area

LAUNDRY ROOM

Tide (HE) Laundry Detergent
 Fabric Softener
 Dryer Sheets
 Laundry Baskets – Heavy duty square ones
 White Towels
 White Wash Cloths
 Bleach

OUTDOOR/SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Heavy Duty Volleyball Net
 Volleyballs
 Soccer Balls
 Basketballs
 Footballs
 Badminton
 Frisbies
 Softballs
 Bats
 Bases
 Whiffle Ball sets
 Jump ropes
 Lawn Chairs or Camp-style chairs
 Picnic Tables
 Bouncy Balls
 Hula Hoops
 Bicycles (All sizes)
 Tetherball Pole, Ball and Rope
 Equipment Storage unit

LIBRARY

Books (All reading levels and subjects)
 DVD's (New Releases)
 Board Games
 Magazine Subscriptions for Children

Maps
 Globe
 Audio Books with Players/Headphones
 Age-Appropriate Music CD's with Players/Headphones
 Electronic Learning Games
 Batteries
 Puzzles
 Video Games (Rated – E)

INDOOR TOYS

Legos
 Lincoln Logs
 Baby Dolls
 Doll Clothes
 Toy Trucks and Cars
 Barbie Dolls and Accessories
 Model Cars and Airplanes
 DS with Games

PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

Shampoo
 Conditioner
 Deodorant
 Teen Face Wash
 Diaper Rash Cream
 Baby Wipes
 Diapers/Pull-ups – All Sizes

Scary-Oke Raises Money for the Shelter

Scary-oke, a Celebrity Karaoke Bash held at the Argenta Community Theater, brought in over \$23,000 for Open Arms Shelter on Saturday, October 15. Renee Shapiro and Beth Hunt served as Master of Ceremonies during the celebrity competition for the evening. Jane Balgavy and Dr. Tony Thurman hosted the After Party with the audience taking the microphone. Thank you to all the sponsors, volunteers, entertainers and participants who helped make it fun and successful.



KATV Channel 7's Beth (Old Lady) Hunt can't resist a dance with celebrity performer, Chase Perryman, along with co-worker and MC, Renee (Texas Tiara Princess) Shapiro.



Scary-oke's Were-Elivs (10-time World Champion Heavy Weight Arm Wrestler, Michael Todd) takes on Topcon's Mike Tibbitt.



Scary-Fairy (Sarah Strabala) with Dracula (Chase Perryman).



The Topcon Group strikes a pose at Scary-oke. Back row from left to right: Dennis House, Ralph Strabala, Sarah Strabala, Matt Catt, Nancy O'Connor, Ray O'Connor, Mike Tibbitt, Tania Perez. Front row from left to right: Rhonda House, Kelly Tibbitt, Chase Perryman.

Sponsored by: Centennial Bank, Kelly Law Firm, Rep. Davy Carter, Southwest Airlines, Topcon, Lonoke Co. Coop, Rick & LuAnn Ashley, Harbor Distributing Co., Bedford's Camera & Video, Lonoke Nursing & Rehab, Greenbrier Retirement of Lonoke, Old Mill Wine & Spirits, Nick's BBQ.

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Lots of Fun at the Pumpkin Run

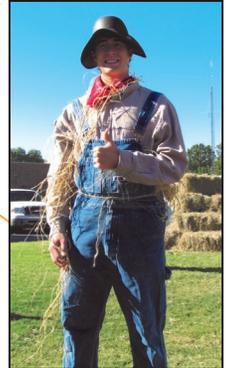
Thanks to all who volunteered and participated in the Great 5K Pumpkin Run and Pumpkin Patch on October 1. There were over 50 high school volunteers from Lonoke, Cabot, England, and Carlisle. We appreciate kids helping kids! We also want to give a big thanks to all our volunteers, sponsors, the band *New Horizon* and all those who participated. We hope to have even more runners and walkers join us next year. So please help us spread the word, and put the Pumpkin Run and Pumpkin Patch on your calendar for next year on September 29th from 8:00-noon.



Congrats to Storm Beeler, overall male winner.



Way to go Ashleigh Himstedt, overall female winner.



Scarecrow Reid McKenzie



New Horizon



Sponsored by: SavvyKids, Elias Family, Lyon's Drug Store, Petrus Seed and Grain, Susan & Roger Bransford, Pool Fisheries, Farm Bureau, Tidwell's Dairy Bar and Flying Service, Gates Electrical, FAB&T, Arkansas Crop Tech, May Family Farm, Prevail Fitness, Lonoke Chamber, Chuck & Laura Rooney, Gene & Judy Holman, Lonoke Nursing & Rehab, Walmart, RoadID, Crown Trophy, KD Graphics, Stewart Ice Co.

Memorials and Honorariums from July to present:

In Memory of:

- Marion Foster**, by Dudley & Juanita Webb
- Dean & Misti Morris
- Norman & Laverne Polk
- Kaye & Neal Anderson
- Elizabeth Drye Cody**, by Anne Anderson
- Donnie Grady**, by Addie Petrus & Family
- Judge Randell L Williams**, by Kaye & Neal Anderson
- Eunice Sullivan Brown**, by Kaye & Neal Anderson
- Howard Ray Sullivan**, by Kaye & Neal Anderson
- Horace Rutherford**, by Polly & L.D. Brantley

- Joyce Lemons**, by Dean & Misti Morris
- Charlie & Zette Elliott**, by Bettie Tyson
- Robbi Allen**, by Dr. & Mrs. Victor Ferrari
- JoAnn Nash**, by Tommy, Shelby, Hal, Rick & Tina Hillman
- Francis Holman**, by Mike Dolan
- David Garner Sr.**, by Marthann Bennett
- Glen Blount**, by Mr. & Mrs. Cary Ray
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Ray
- Bob & Janeil Cox
- Rachel Sanders**, by Dean & Misti Morris
- Maylene Walden**, by Harry & Mary Lou King

In Honor of:

- Lee & Brandi Hughes**, by J. Michael Dolan
- Rick & Susan Bransford**, by Dick & Johnnie Bransford
- Roger & Susan Bransford**, by Dick & Johnnie Bransford
- Becky & Bill Paxton**, by Dick & Johnnie Bransford
- Rick Bransford**, by Bill & Becky Paxton
- Josephine Bryant**, by Marthann F. Bennett
- Mr. & Mrs. Joe Foster**, by Mr. & Mrs. Eulus E. Evans
- Carla Jo Davenport**, by Kathy Millard
- Jennings Osborne**, by Kathy Millard
- Raymond Lorince**, by Jet & Jerry Colclasure

Merritt & Shannon Holman, by

- The Waldrop Family
- Cheryl & Les Anderson**
- Marthann Bennett**
- Charlene & Bill Cunningham**
- Betty & Billi Fletcher**
- Charlotte & Leon Hill**
- Emma & Walls McCrary**
- Debbi & Bill Morgan**
- Billie Ruth Rochelle**
- Peggy & Ronnie Anderson**
- Nancy & Harry Buffalo**
- Suzette & Gary Elmore**
- Cindy & Preston Hamilton**
- Carolyn McCrary**
- Lou Ann & Tommy Miller**
- Mary Louise & Duane Nisbett**
- Sherry & Bill Sandage**
- Pam William**, by Katie Anderson & Scott Siever



Changing Hearts

Open Arms Shelter
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Phone:
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(501) 676-6174

Website:
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The Open Arms Shelter Team

2011 Board of Directors

England

Pam Foster
Sherry Sandage
Gary Canada, Jr., V.C.

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Mattie Williams, Relief Worker I
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Cabot

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Holly Huckabae

Lonoke

Jana Hagge, *Chair*
Jamie Anderson
Carrie Holt
Jona Plummer

Open Arms Shelter Needs List

FOOD ITEMS

Apple Juice
Canned Fruit
Cake Mixes and Frosting
Spaghetti Sauce
BBQ Sauce
Ketchup
Pickles
Canned Vegetable
Hamburger Helper
Mac-N-Cheese
Instant Potatoes
Canned Vegetables:
Green Beans
Corn
Mixed Vegetables
Peas
Carrots

Jelly
Peanut Butter
Mayonnaise
Relish
Chili
Oatmeal
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Cooking spray
Spices
Salt
Pepper
Chili Powder
Taco Seasoning
Gravy Mixes
Taco Shells

Cereal
Produce:
Potatoes
Onions
Lettuce
Tomatoes
Bell Peppers
Celery
Fresh Fruit
Cooking Oil
Tortilla Chips
Spaghetti Noodles

PAPER PRODUCTS

Toilet Paper
Divided Styrofoam plates
Styrofoam cups
Plastic Forks, Knives,
Spoons
Paper Towels
Napkins
Ziploc Bags – Sandwich,
Quart, and Gallon
Aluminum Foil

CLEANING SUPPLIES

Lysol Spray
Air Fresheners
Sanitizing wipes
Windex
Tilex
Clorox Clean-up
Germ-X

Give a Gift to Open Arms

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____ EMAIL: _____

__ My donation in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed, and is in honor/
memory (circle one) of _____

__ Send notification of gift to: _____

Address: _____

Open Arms has full 501-(c)3 status. Your gift is tax deductible.
For large gifts, please contact the shelter.

Open Arms Shelter
P.O. Box 161
Lonoke, Arkansas