

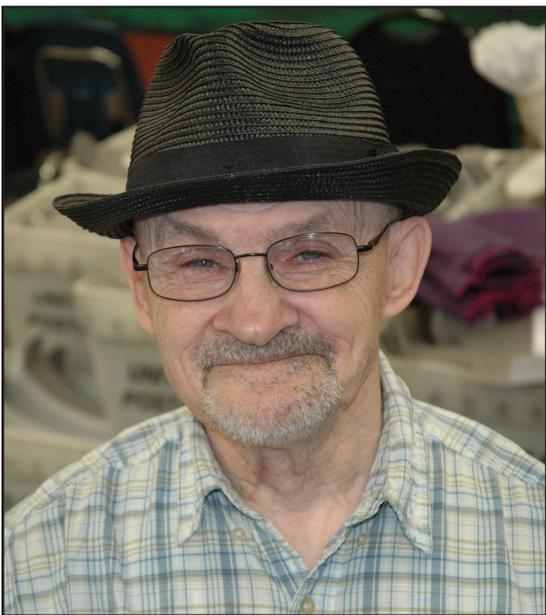


The Arc
XXXVII
Boilermaker
July 13, 2014 • Utica, New York



Charity Bib Runner

Greg Raab



Age is only a number. Just ask Bob Merritt, one of The Arc Oneida-Lewis Chapter's infamous "Bennett Street Boys." He is an active participant in many of the services and programs offered at The Arc, setting an example with his positive attitude and love of life. He resides at our Bennett Street location with eight other men known for their energy and enthusiasm. Bennett Street is just one of The Arc's Residential Services Program locations that strives to create a quality of life based on meaningful opportunities and self-determined outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

Each person, along with family members and other interested parties, work together to develop a plan of services based on individual dreams, strengths and interests. Arc homes are located in several communities in Oneida and Lewis Counties. They can be found in quiet rural setting, or bustling city neighborhoods, in small quaint villages or sprawling suburbs. Options range in size from two-person to ten-person homes. Support and

assistance is based on need and ranges from a few hours per week to 24-hour on-site supervision.

"Bob is an outgoing person who loves to laugh," said Earl Casler, who has worked at The Arc for 18 years. "He is always up for any activity we have planned whether it's walking three miles in America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk or attending summer camp." Bob attends the Arnold Ave Workshop and the North Utica Senior Center. He is also involved with the Utica Self Advocacy group and bowls with the Special Olympics.

"Bob was honored to carry the Special Olympic torch in 1996, and to travel to numerous places around the world such as Hawaii, Italy, Texas and DC," said Earl. "There is never a dull moment in Bob's life. He is always looking for the next activity to be involved in!"

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Tim Carey
PHOTOGRAPHY

Visit www.thearc.org and click on "Charity Bib Program" to make a donation to support Greg Raab today, or call 315.272.1529.