



HELEN R. WALTON  
**CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT  
CENTER**



# News & Notes



October 2015  
Issue 118



## Employee of the Month



**Maggie Blowers**  
Preschool Lead Teacher

## A WHOLE-CHILD APPROACH



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HWCEC.ORG

## It Takes a Village to Raise a Child Launch Event

On September 17, HWCEC announced its new location and the expansion of the Early Childhood Initiatives Center. As our aging building has served us well, it is time to build a model facility that educates 250 children, and serves as a model early childhood program for NWA.

There are 32,000 young children attending child care centers throughout NWA. Our goal is to ensure EVERY child has access to high quality care and education. We will accomplish this by expanding the Early Childhood Initiatives Center, training, program development, resources and advocacy efforts.

A range of panelists from the White House, Tyson Foods, Walmart, Pepsico, NWA Council and Lynne Walton explained how early childhood directly impacts economic and workforce development efforts. To learn more, please visit [www.ecicnwa.org](http://www.ecicnwa.org).

Panelists from left to right: Michelle Barnes, Sara Lilygren, Dr. James King, Mike Malone, Karen Parker, Linda Smith, Lynne Walton, and Steven Williams.

## FALL FROLIC

hosted at:



Date: Friday, October 23  
6-8 p.m.

Please eat before you arrive!  
(healthy snacks will be available)  
Cost: FREE for HWCEC families

There will be no silent auction this year due to the location. However, parents are encouraged to contribute to the capital campaign or scholarships program that evening.



## Parent Spotlight

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Hats off for Ginger Bourquin as she donated case after case of costumes and accessories to celebrate fall and seasons to come!

A special thank you to Becky Schoewe, Angie Smith and the Parent Advisory Committee for providing breakfast and stickers on the day of the Launch Event to help teachers and staff feel a part of the event while staying behind and placing children as their first priority!

## PAC Meeting

(Parent Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, October 14

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Sam's Club Café

Simple Savings Drive/Moberly Lane

## Baby Connect Begins: Nov. 2

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Our start date has been delayed. Technology is wonderful unless you start too many new programs at once. Staff continue to take training on the new curriculum and online assessment tool.

Therefore, we have delayed Baby Connect start date to **November 2**. This will allow our staff to complete their first round of assessments before utilizing the new app for Baby Connect.

The new system will allow infant parents to receive daily reports through a mobile application - know when your child ate last, diaper changes, napping, activities and more.



## It's Book Fair Time!

October 5-9

Preschool Gross Motor Room

The book fair will be open every day from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the preschool gross motor room. The Center will accept checks, cash, or credit cards. Each classroom will have a wish list of available books for interested parents. If you would like to volunteer for the book fair, a sign-up sheet is available at the front desk.

## Check your email...

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Don't forget that most notices, event information, newsletters and more will be sent via email. Make sure you check your email often to keep up-to-date on the latest information! If you have a change of email address, please feel free to stop by the front desk or call 273-3552 or email [frontdesk@hwccenter.com](mailto:frontdesk@hwccenter.com).

Copies of any notices can be obtained at the front desk.

## Where is HWCEC Moving to?

HWCEC new facility will be located on J Street adjacent to Crystal Bridges and Amazeum. The design process will take approximately 6-8 months followed by a 12 month construction period.

Our new "home" will sit on 7.94 acres and include 35,000 square feet for HWCEC and 8,700 square feet for the Early Childhood Initiatives Center. Additionally, the new lot will allow for .5 - .75 acres of outdoor learning space.

## Employee of the Month

Maggie Blowers  
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A parent shared his positive experience with potty training thanks to Maggie.

"...I really appreciate this as we know it's very hard when you have a full classroom of little people who are very energetic and full of life to ask consistently that one little question of a particular student. We just feel she's gone above and beyond and are grateful," states an appreciative dad.

"I am SO grateful and really appreciate her {Ms. Maggie} patience," states another mom.

Ms. Maggie has been an incredible team member for **17 years**, with a Child Development Associate and countless hours of early childhood development training.

## Fire Awareness

The fire department is visiting the preschool department the morning of October 6 from 9-11 (class times will vary). Children will learn about fire prevention, safety tips, and tour the fire truck.

