

## Annual Holiday Party

Another wonderful evening of dining and dancing for over 400 Arc participants and their families. The Venetian has been a gracious host of this event for over seven years, and each year is better than the last.

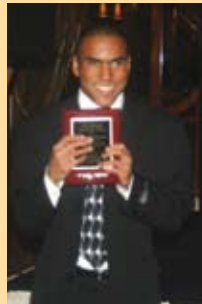
The highlight of the evening is the Awards Ceremony. Every year nominations are made for the Robert S. Burros Employee of the Year Award honoring an Arc employee who has made a significant difference in the lives of persons with developmental disabilities; the Joan Seidler Award recognizing an individual who has successfully entered competitive employment; and the Paula Bottom Award honoring an individual who is living successfully and contributing to their community.

### The Winners are:



**Brian Bulger,  
Employee of the Year Award**

(l-r) Brian, Ralph Mastrangelo, Jr. Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Garry Burros, Anne Gallucci, Director of Vocational Services, and Kathy Walsh, President/CEO.



**Dennis Scott  
Joan Seidler Award**



**Timmy Dean & Corey Brown  
Paula Bottom Award**

(l-r) Kathy Walsh, President/CEO, Guadalupe Zenon, Supervisor, Community Choices, Jon Cavallerano, Assistant Director Adult Services, Timmy Dean & Corey Brown, award recipients, Bridgett VanDeWeghe, Director, Adult Services and Harvey Winterfield, Supervisor Crew Labor.



Yuri Podolsky wins 50/50



## President's Message



Did you know that the Division of Developmental Disabilities(DDD) took the biggest cut of any Division of State government when Governor Corzine reopened the Fiscal Year 09 (7/08-6/09) budget in January?

Due to the current economic crisis Governor Corzine opened up the state budget for the current year and made cuts to the tune

of \$812,199,000. Of that total, DDD took a cut of \$45,477,000. In fact, DDD's cut was not just greater than other Divisions in the State; it was actually greater than whole Departments of state government. DDD's hit was greater than the Departments of Correction, Agriculture, Environmental Protection, Veteran's Affairs, Transportation and Commerce and the entire Department of Health and Senior Services including all its Divisions was only cut 10 million more than the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

If you are scratching your head and thinking how can that be, why would DDD get hit so hard? DDD is responsible for our State's most vulnerable citizens, shouldn't they be receiving the lowest cut or no cut at all? If you are thinking that while there are over 8,000 people on the residential waiting list shouldn't DDD be slated for expanded funding vs. cuts? If you have concluded that this absolutely doesn't make sense, then you are not alone. We have been trying to make sense out of it for weeks and frankly we are still scratching our heads.

In his December 11th testimony on the recession, Governor Corzine said "We can't shut down our prisons, cut public safety, eliminate services for the developmentally disabled and mentally ill, or shutter our child welfare agencies" Yet, DDD gets cut over 45 million.

We are hearing that there may be another round of cuts to the FY09 budget and that the FY10 budget will be even worse. Let's hope that enough is enough. Let's hope that the Governor rereads his December 11th speech. Let's hope that DDD will be held harmless.

In fact let's not hope, let's act. After years of underfunding, lack of services and huge waiting lists we have paid our dues. The Governor needs to know that people with Developmental Disabilities, their families and their friends have had enough. It's time to pick on someone else.

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**The Arc of Bergen and Passaic Counties, Inc.**  
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### *Statement of Community Mission*

*To provide enhanced opportunities for all citizens of Bergen and Passaic Counties with intellectual and other disabilities and their families through advocacy, community education, direct services and customized supports to help these individuals attain and maintain fulfilled and independent status within their own communities and to initiate actions to prevent the occurrence of disability whenever possible.*

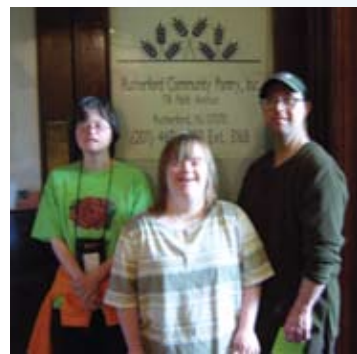


## Community Choices

The Community Choices Program continues to live up to its name as community activities abounded throughout the summer season. Vocational, educational and recreational activities filled the calendar as participants enjoyed outings to Medieval Times, Liberty State Park, Bear Mountain and Central Park in New York City. Participants delighted in the warm summer breeze coming off the ocean at Keansburg Boardwalk, where they observed fishermen busy with their catch of the day.

We continue to meet our commitments to our volunteer job sites: Bergen Regional Medical Center, Valley Hospital, the Animal Shelter and the Archive Gift Shop. Dance Technique Class remained part of the weekly routine as well.

What is summertime without swimming? Participants and staff enjoyed several special visits to the home of one of our participants for parties and birthday celebrations, which included dips in the Fornaci family's pool. We express our gratitude to the Fornaci's for their hospitality! Speaking of swimming, participants and staff are very excited about our new endeavor, "Aquatherapy" at the YWCA pool in Ridgewood. This program just began, so we will have more exciting news about it next time.



## South Bergen ATC News

Thank you to Cheryl Dubeneuzic of Hackensack Medical Center for the donation of the blue arm chairs, and thank you to Kathy Hilderbrand from Rutherford Town Hall for the brown arm chairs.

Some folks from South Bergen attended the Lyndhurst 9/11 memorial and shared our support with members of the community affected by 9/11.

It is important to acknowledge those that make our program go so well. One of the people we look forward to seeing every week is Cindy Rottini. Cindy is from the Meadowlands Y and runs an arm chair exercise program for us at South Bergen. Always armed with her boom box, energy and smile she is helping us all get into shape. Thank you Cindy.



Our program participants who are food pantry volunteers were invited to an appreciation dinner in November to give recognition to the Food Pantry volunteers who make the Food Pantry possible. We are pleased to be an active part of our community.

## CREW LABOR AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

### New People New Jobs



Congratulations to Kathy Ayers who is now working at Popeye's in Rutherford. Kathy has been looking forward to having another competitive employment position since she was laid off from The Record. Corey Brown is also new at Popeye's. He is there temporarily filling in for a worker on medical leave. Corey has been a part of Crew Labor for 12 years. Both

enjoy working there. The Arc is appreciative of Popeye's for the opportunity they give our participants

We welcome Brian Haller and Bryan Gagel to the Crew Labor Program. Brian Haller works with one of our Daytime Janitorial Crews. Bryan Gagel is with our Night Crew. We are happy to have them both on board. We also welcome our new staff to Crew/SE: Calvin Fraser, Juan Moreno, Jeanette Pierre, James Ruffin and Shontia Walker.

## DAY SERVICE OPENINGS

The Arc has openings in its vocational and adult training programs. If you know anyone who is sitting at home without a place to go during the day call us. The State of New Jersey is cutting all unfilled openings in day programs. Don't lose the opportunity, call today!

The Arc offers a vocational rehabilitation center, work activities training center, job placement, supported employment, janitorial training program, adult training centers, behavioral special needs program and a program for individuals with medical or physical special needs. We support over 400 individuals in various day services. Call for more information or to arrange a tour. Contact Bridget Van De Weghe, Director of Adult Services 201-343-0322 x2246 or email [bvandeweghe@arcbp.com](mailto:bvandeweghe@arcbp.com).

# 19th Annual Golf Classic Raises \$31,000

Another great day at Preakness Hills Country Club in Wayne. The weather was beautiful, the course was in full fall foliage, and the food was delicious. During dinner a new promotional DVD produced by The Arc and Filter2 Productions was presented to the attendees, highlighting some of the programs The Arc offers individuals with intellectual and other disabilities. Following the video, three fathers of children who attended our Child Center, Rainbow and Adult Programs got up and talked about how The Arc helped their families deal with the issues that arise when raising a child with a disability. It was an emotional as well as educational experience for many in the room.

It takes a combined effort to see that an event such as this runs smoothly. Thanks to all The Arc department heads who spent the day registering golfers, giving out goody bags, sitting out on the course waiting for a little white ball to fall into a hole and selling raffle tickets – couldn't do it without you. And of course, a heartfelt thank you to our committee: Don Conway, David Debeau, Mike Fornaci, Nick Gorab, Betty Hoehne, Jim Lacava, Ken Lundberg, Ralph Mastrangelo, Jr., Frank Pescatore, Marie Sorrentino and our co-chairs, Richard Fellingner and George Kramer.

And last but not least, our biggest thank you goes out to our Sponsors for their continued support, especially Mechtronics Corp., which has been the Event Sponsor for the Golf Classic for over six years:

Thatcher McGhee's Irish Pub & Eatery  
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U. S. Display Group  
SG Footwear  
Weichert Realtors, Wayne, NJ  
William Alexander Fellingner



(l-r) Arc 2nd Vice Chair and Foundation Board President Betty Hoehne, Marie Sorrentino, Pam Miller, and Foundation Board Member, Lynn Smith



(l-r) Arc Board Members, Jim Lacava, Nick Gorab, Lloyd Rauch, and Foundation Board Member, Bob Moore



(l-r) Jack Lovett and Tom Reagan



(l-r) Alvin and Molla Reisbaum, Barbara Palmer and Arc 1st Vice Chair, George Kramer



(l-r) Board Member Jim Lacava, The Arc's President/CEO Kathy Walsh, and Nick Gorab, Board Member



Mike Fornaci, John Kelly, Jim Maciag, Craig Brower

***If you are a golfer, please mark your calendars for The 12th Annual Golf Classic on October 5, 2009.***

# Congratulations to Staff Celebrating Anniversaries with The Arc in 2008

## 30 Years

Jeanne Thompson

## 25 Years

Tamara Hogue

Alice Siegel

## 20 Years

James Bacote

Pearlie Graddy

Jannie Mae Green

## 15 Years

Linda Mc Nerney

Vickie Miller

Lauren Vergara

## 10 Years

Jason Becker

Michele Budai

Paula Byers

Jon Cavallerano

Sylvanus Enyiema

Njoku Innocent

Olga Podolsky

Harvey Winterfield

Ray Fardhosseini

Marvin Fields

Barbara Jones

Gertrudis Lopez

## 5 Years

Shawn Algiers

Jameika Chestnut

Linda Dunbar

Betty Dickens

Mary Estren

Linda Fleurimond

Naseem Ghany

Marie Harris

Luis Hernandez

George Jackson

Rhonda Lewis

Taquilla Lewis

Virginia Mercun

Sonia Portia

Robin Reinhardt

Libby Thomas

Carline Tifaut

## Rainbow Summer Day Program

Planning for Rainbow Summer 2009 is underway. If you would like an application for camp please call Joyce Stueben at 201-343-0322 ext.270.

The Rainbow Summer Day will begin its 59th season on June 29th and run through August 7th from 9am to 3pm.

The program provides children and adults with an educational experience in a fun-filled environment. Located on the grounds of Ramapo College, Rainbow will provide door-to-door transportation for participants within designated areas.

Rainbow activities include swimming at Darlington Lake, arts and crafts, music, adapted phys. ed, academic periods, special events and trips. A transition program is available for adolescents which emphasizes activities of daily living, working independently and developing confidence and self-esteem.

The Rainbow program provides Extended School Year services for many school districts. Designed to support and maintain the skills children are learning during the school year, the program also emphasizes the provision of specific instruction in accordance with the IEP.

The Rainbow staff includes Special Education Teachers, lifeguards, a nurse, program specialists and counselors. The Camp Director and Assistant Director are Special Education Teachers with many years experience.

The Rainbow Vacation Club offers adults an opportunity to get away from work and have some fun with age appropriate activities both on site and in the community.

***Warm Days, New Adventures and Good Times With Friends Old and New...  
Don't Miss Rainbow This Summer!***

## COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS

### *In Honor of:*

Friends & Family

*Mr. & Mrs. Sean Hall*

Jake

*Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Weisbuch*

Anthony & Lena Calabrese

*Mr. Gerald Calabrese*

William D. Georgia

*Ms. Jo-Ann Long*

Nicholas Gorab

*Dr. & Mrs. Richard Fadil*

Jocelyn Martinez

*Mr. & Mrs. Norberto Martinez*

Bridget VanderVeer

*Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Obstbaum*

### *In Memory of:*

Raymond Barboni

*Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Barboni*

Margaret Barnard

*Mr. & Mrs. John Palsi*

Sidney Bernstein

*Ms. Beatrice Kleinman*

Cathy Bodensiek

*Mr. Herbert Bodensiek*

John & Cecilia Constance

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Nicholas DiRienzo

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John Goodwine

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Edna Houtz

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*Mr. & Mrs. Mat Glowski*

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*Ms. Bernice Pollack*

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*Mr. & Mrs. John Palsi*

Paul J. Lalka Sr. & Gloria M. Lalka

*Ms. Anna Lalka*

Francis Lewis

*Mr. & Mrs. Albert C. Ianacone*

Emil Mully

*Mrs. Anne E. Gallucci*

*Mr. & Mrs. Albert C. Ianacone*

*Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nordstedt & Edwin*

*Mr. & Mrs. Carl N. Nordstedt*

Vito Pirrena

*Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Bartner*

June E. Plihal

*Ms. Betty Hoehne*

Joan Popolo

*Ms. Joanne Brady*

Ziggy Prokop

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Elfriede Roemlein

*Mr. George Roemlein*

Helen Rome

*Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Rome*

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Mary Valentine

*Mr. & Mrs. John Palsi*

Jean Von Schilling

*Mr. & Mrs. James LaGreca*

Philip M. Wieboldt

*Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Wieboldt*

## *The Arc gratefully acknowledges our own "Arc Angels" for their generous donations...*

Betty Hoehne for 2 tickets and a parking pass to a Nets vs. Wizards basketball game, a Nets vs. Mavericks game, a Nets vs. Bobcats game, a Nets vs. Bulls game and a Nets vs. Kings game

Peter Patrou for large and small office furniture and furnishings

Wesley Engles for a TV

And gratefully acknowledges the generous support through the donation of food or food gift cards for our needy families as part of our Thanksgiving "Turkeys and Trimmings" donation drive...

The Duchek Family

Jim and Bea Lacava

Victor Bergenn

Alice Frylich

Al Giunchi

Kathy Pecoraro

Mr. and Mrs. Algarotti

The Freeman Family

The Figueroa Family

The Tabback Family

Biometrix LLC

The Mully Family

Claire Shea

Marie Basso

Josephine Eagleson

Jenn Abate

The Pych-Calton Family

Ann Murray

Jennifer Pergollizzi and

Broadway Medical Adult Day Care

Betsy Kerner

Betty Hoehne

Tracey Scullion

Cathy Pescatore

Donna and Laura Phillips

MaryLou Anelante

Kathy Walsh

Jo Anna Ennis

Olga Podolsky

Janet Masio

Barbara Davella

Jason Becker

Mariatu Sesay

Dennis and Joanne Enrico

Laura Gursky

Marge Kahn

Elizabeth Caruso

Eleanor Ariemma

Anne Gallucci

Chris Neal

Alice Siegel

Jon Cavallerano

James Bacote

Monique Steele

Lonnie Wallace

## *From the Development Office:*

**By now you should have received a letter requesting your support to this year's Annual Appeal; and for those of you who have sent in a donation, THANK YOU – because of your gift the total raised so far is \$27,000. But we still have a ways to go to reach our goal of \$40,000! Gifts to this appeal help The Arc maintain the programs and services our participants attend on a daily basis. We understand everyone is experiencing some form of financial difficulties; The Arc's investments have suffered as well and grants from the State are in jeopardy. This is why, more than ever, your support is critical to the programs and services we provide to our participants and their families.**

Donations can be made to the Annual Appeal from now through June 30, 2009 and are tax-deductible. If you would like to make a pledge and pay it off monthly or quarterly we can set up a payment schedule for you.

### **Giving incentives:**

Before leaving office, President Bush signed a bill, which included a two-year extension of IRA rollovers to charitable organizations. The provision will be retroactive to January 1, 2008 and will apply to gifts made from that date through December 31, 2009.

The provision exempts from taxable income any funds transferred (rolled over) from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a charitable organization. The following limitations apply:

- The donor must be age 70 ½ or older
- The cap on annual IRA rollovers is \$100,000
- The contribution must be a direct gift to the charity

If you would like to take advantage of this tax incentive or would like information on Planned Giving, please consult with your tax advisor or call the Development Office at extension 2225.

Thank you for all you have done in the past and please keep The Arc in mind when you plan your charitable giving in the future.

Janet Masio, Director of Development

## Arc Family Album



Each Easter, the holy city of Lourdes, France, opens its arms and its streets, hotels and restaurants to thousands of special needs youngsters and volunteers who literally descend upon the town as part of a unique international pilgrimage program. This program is funded by The American Special Children's Pilgrimage Group, a non-profit organization that unites children and young adults with special physical, mental or emotional needs with volunteer caregivers for an unforgettable week in Lourdes.

One of The Arc's CHILD Center graduates, William Fellingner, was one of the lucky participants of this program. The Fellingners have been very generous supporters of The Arc as well as advocates for individuals with developmental disabilities

William was asked by Father Peter Palmisano of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church in Garfield to travel with the New Jersey group and also had the honor of being an altar server at mass in Lourdes every day. William has been an altar server since sixth grade so serving mass in front of 8,000 people didn't fluster him a bit.

For more information on this program, please visit the Pilgrimage Group website at [www.ascpg.org](http://www.ascpg.org).

## Michael Maldonado Wins State Award

Any given Saturday, you can see Michael Maldonado strolling through the town of Bergenfield. He takes the bus from his home in Tenafly to the Main Street Diner and has a late breakfast before going to the movies. Walking along the main street in town, he stops by several stores and chats with the owners and store clerks, all of whom know him by name. When he enters the movie theater, the employees behind the concession stand know his order and prepare it as he purchases his movie ticket.

Michael has lived in the Tenafly Group Home since coming to The Arc. He quickly integrated himself into his surrounding neighborhoods, developing relationships with store owners and their employees. Michael independently uses public transportation to get to and from work and several local destinations. He has surpassed the expectations of everyone who knows him. He negotiates the complicated bus schedules to ensure that he arrives to work on time.

Michael works at Friendship House and Dumont Lite Industries doing assembly work. He used the advocacy skills he developed over the years to increase his days at Friendship House because they had more work and he wanted to earn more money. He accomplished this goal independently without asking the staff for any assistance with his advocacy effort.

These are just a few of the traits that led to Michael's nomination for the Bill Sackter Award. Michael won the award locally and was honored by our own chapter during our Founder's Day celebration last June. His nomination was submitted to The Arc of NJ where he was in competition with other worthy individuals across the State and he won!

In October 2008, at an awards dinner attended by a few hundred people, Michael was presented with the Arc of New Jersey's Bill Sackter award. Michael could barely conceal his excitement during the evening. He smiled throughout the dinner and presentations in anticipation of his award. When his name was finally called, Michael approached the podium and made a graceful and thoughtful speech expressing his gratitude to his mother and his staff for their help and thanking the crowd for the award. It was a very touching moment for the entire audience. Congratulations Michael on this noteworthy achievement!



SAVE THE DATE:  
4th Annual Rock For The Arc

**Thursday**  
**March 19th**  
at  
**Mexicali Blues**  
1409 Queen Anne Road  
Teaneck, NJ

**Doors open at 6pm**

**Tickets: \$20.00 each**  
Call April at  
(201) 343-0322 ext. 2243

**Featuring:**  
**Christian Boisis**  
&  
**The Depew Crew**  
**The Connolly Brothers**  
**Mike Rocket**

**Raffle Prizes & 50/50**



All proceeds benefit The Arc of Bergen & Passaic Counties' Community Residential Services.

## Parent to Parent Volunteers Needed

Parent to Parent Volunteers are parents of children with developmental disabilities whose children are older than 3 years of age and wish to volunteer their time to mentor other parents who are seeking support and empathy. New parents become overwhelmed and want to speak to other parents that have experienced the obstacles that are confronting them.

If you believe that you would be a good candidate and are willing to complete the training, please contact Joyce Stueben, secretary to The Arc's Community Services Department at 201-343-0322, extension 2270.

## Parent Support Groups

*Arc has room in its group schedule*

Parents interested in starting a support group with other parents of children with intellectual disabilities, Autism (ASD), Cerebral palsy or other developmental disabilities please contact Joyce Stueben at 201-343-0322 extension 2270.

**The**  
**Arc**

of Bergen and Passaic Counties  
223 Moore Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601



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