Children's Center Capital Campaign Begins

On an ironically sunny first day of May, UCP officially kicked off the Capital Campaign for a new Children's Center, needed because of flooding problems in the current building.

The May Day Soiree, held at the Colonnade in Scranton, featured cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, music and a silent auction for items such as an overnight stay plus a round of golf at Mount Airy Casino Resort, gift certificates from Patsel's and the Milestone Ranch, a spa treatment from Lavish, and jewelry from Glint of Gold and Ross Jewelers.

David Falchek, wine columnist for The Times-Tribune, and Paul Epsom, owner of Greystone Gardens and host of WNEP's Home and Backyard, served as celebrity co-chairs and each also provided a special auction package.

The architect rendering of the new building was also unveiled at the event. Plans call for the current facility to be torn down, with the new structure being built in its footprint, but raised well above the water table. (continued on page 2)
Flooding Impacts Budget, Services

The Children's Center, located at 423 Center Street in Clarks Summit, is in an area of the borough that is prone to flooding during heavy downpours. The lower level of the building, which sits just 18 inches above the water table, has been flooded numerous times over the years, and during heavy storms, water damage has reached the main floor as well. Twice the furnace and the water heater have had to be replaced. We estimate total damages of about a quarter of a million dollars over the years.

In addition to the monetary costs, the flooding disrupts all of the services provided at the center. UCP's Lekotek and Compuplay programs, which utilize adapted toys and computer activities, respectively, to enhance the child's development are housed in the building along with our Early Intervention services, the NEIU’s preschool program, and Helping Hands child day care center.

The flooding has at times rendered various areas of the building temporarily unusable, forcing classrooms to be combined, or moved into rooms used for other programs. In one instance, the lower level was closed and the preschool program had to be moved out of the building for nearly a month.

Arrangements are already in place to house both the agency programs and the other community service providers who occupy the building, in temporary locations during construction.

UCP has secured about $400,000 of the total $1.7 million needed for the project through grants and other donations.

If you would like to make a contribution to the campaign, please fill out and include with your donation the response card included in this newsletter.

Get to Know Our Board Members

Linda Gable
Linda is the new president of UCP's Board of Directors. Linda has served as a vice-president and on the Finance Committee.

She is a registered sales assistant at Penn Security Bank and has also volunteered with the Girl Scouts and the Steamtown Marathon.

She and her husband Leonard live in Dalton. They have a daughter, Nicole, and two sons, Jim and Jonathan.

Angela Schuback
Angela is an External Relations Assistant in Development for Penn State University at the Worthington Scranton Campus in Dunmore.

She graduated from Keystone College with an Associates' degree in Communications and is also a graduate of Leadership Lackawanna.

She and her husband Chris live in Old Forge. They have two sons, Chris and Matthew.
Executive Director’s Message

We are very excited about our new Children’s Center! As you read in our feature article, UCP has launched a capital campaign to raise the money needed to build our new Children’s Center. Some organizations may want or desire a new building, but for UCP and the children, families and staff that utilize the Children’s Center, we NEED a new building. Chronic and persistent flooding in the current building has created the need for a new building.

For almost 25 years, children with and without disabilities and their families have received support and services at our Children’s Center. UCP’s Children’s Center is unique in that 3 different child-serving organizations use the building. The Children’s Center is home to UCP’s Lekotek and Early Intervention Programs. The Northeast Intermediate Unit #19 provides educational supports and services to preschool age children with disabilities and Helping Hands is a private day care center. UCP of NEPA is committed to continue working together with other child serving organizations to meet the needs of children and families in our community.

Today, we are asking for your help. Included in this edition of our newsletter is a donation card for the new Children’s Center. We are all aware of the difficult economic times that we are living in. But in both good and rough economic times, the needs of the children and families we serve have to be met. If you can, please help us by completing the attached card and returning it to UCP with your donation. Any donation, small, medium or large is greatly appreciated! On behalf of all the people and families we serve, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Sarah A. Drob

Join UCP of NEPA on Facebook!

If you’re a member of the social networking site, Facebook, you can now show your support for UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania by becoming a Fan and joining our Cause and encouraging your friends to do so, too.

Facebook is free to join and enables you to connect with family and friends as well as show your support for your favorite charitable causes.

On our Fan page, you’ll be able to see pictures from our events and program activities, and keep up with what’s going on in the agency. Fans can also share links, post photos on our wall and share information with each other on the discussion boards.

Our Cause page contains more information about UCP and members can also post links, pictures, and messages on that page. Facebook created the Causes application to enable individuals to donate online and recruit their online friends to the causes they care about.

We hope to have a dynamic Facebook presence with lots of involvement from our consumers, families, staff, board and supporters. So if you haven’t already, join Facebook and sign up as a Fan of UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania and a member of our Cause. Links to our Facebook pages are on our website at www.ucpnepa.com.
A Soggy but Successful Golf Tournament

Seventy-six golfers braved the off-and-on showers to participate in UCP’s annual Golf Tournament held on Friday, July 17th at the picturesque Stone Hedge Golf Course in Tunkhannock.

We appreciate the support of all of the golfers, as well as the individuals and businesses, listed below, who generously sponsored, donated prizes and helped to make the event a success.

Major Sponsors

- Durabilt Fence Company
- McHale Heating & Air Conditioning
- Maco Construction
- Magnotta Construction
- Jay’s Lounge
- James Rogers Architects
- Scranton Dodge

Thanks also to:

- Ross Jewelers
- GR Noto Electrical Contractors
- Dave Walters / Tastylake Co.
- Jared Cottell
- The Hill Family

And to our Volunteers:

- Dorothy Nichols
- Marisa Cottell
- Linda McHugh
- Sarah Drob, UCP Executive Director

The Golf Tournament was organized by UCP Operations Director Tim McHugh. Proceeds benefit UCP’s Early Intervention services.

Volunteers Needed!
for UCP’s Holiday Gift Wrap

Yes, it’s still only summer, but we will soon be scheduling volunteers for our annual Gift Wrap fund-raiser which takes place at the Viewmont Mall.

The Gift Wrap begins on “Black Friday,” the day after Thanksgiving and runs every day thru Christmas Eve so there are lots of chances to get involved.

If you are a member of a group or club that would be interested in helping, please contact us at 347-3357 or ucpnepa@epix.net.
The Assistive Technology Resource Center at UCP of NEPA provides an array of services through a subcontract with PIAT-Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology. PIAT is the commonwealth's Assistive Technology Act program based at the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University. PIAT is funded through a grant from the Rehabilitation Services Administration, US Department of Education. For these services we cover a six county area in northeastern PA: Bradford, Lackawanna, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming.

Information and assistance is provided by phone, email, fax and regular mail. Demonstrations of equipment to an individual with disabilities can be provided at the main office or at any mutually agreed upon location. Events to increase awareness and knowledge of assistive technology are held throughout our six-county service area.

We also help individuals access several assistive technology programs:

- **PA's Assistive Technology Lending Library**, through which individuals can borrow devices to try out or items they may need on a temporary basis;
- **the Telecommunication Device Distribution Program**, which provides devices to people who have disabilities that hinder their ability to use the telephone;
- **the Reused and Exchanged Equipment Partnership**, which consists of several programs that may be a source for previously owned devices that individuals can typically obtain at less than the cost of new equipment or even free of charge; and
- **PA's Assistive Technology Foundation**, which provides low interest loans to enable people to purchase wheelchairs, adapted vehicles and other assistive devices.

More information about all of these programs and services can be found on our website at www.ucpnepa.com. You can also contact us by email at ucp-tech@yahoo.com or by calling 570-347-3357 ext. 32 or fax 570-341-5308.

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**Annual Meeting/Staff Appreciation Dinner**

UCP's Annual Meeting & Staff Appreciation Dinner was held on Tuesday, June 30th at the Melting Pot in Scranton.

Officers installed for fiscal year 2009-2010 are: Linda Gable, President; Edward Karpovich, Treasurer; Marilyn Vitali, Secretary; and John M. Darcy, Immediate Past President.

Staff honored for their years of service were: Karen Himchak and Tim McHugh, both for 30 years; Mike Coyne, 25 years; Bob Cucurc and Barb Sirkievicz, both for 20 years; Tessie Bauer and Kathy Sloneker, both for 15 years; and Betty Dalton for 5 years.

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**United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania**

**Board of Directors**

**Officers**

Linda B. Gable, President
Edward Karpovich, Treasurer
Marilyn Vitali, Secretary
John M. Darcy, Immediate Past President

**Members**

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Daniel Ginsberg, Ph.D.
Ralph Heller
Paul A. Kelly, Jr., Esq.
Louise Krafick
Mary Jean Lynett
Barbara D. Noto
Angela Schuback
Robert Schwartz
Barbara Wagner
Bonanza of Baskets Raffle Held

After some last-minute ticket selling, UCP's Bonanza of Baskets raffle drawing took place on June 4th at the Steamtown Mall in Scranton. A total of 56 baskets, donated by local businesses and individuals were given away.

We extend our thanks to all of the donors, listed below, and to the management of Boscov's, the Steamtown Mall and the Viewmont Mall for hosting our ticket sales.

AAA of Northeast Penn  Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs  Vac-Way Appliance
Advocacy Alliance  Inn at Nichols Village  Wegman's
Alora Dining Room  NE Occupational Medicine  Windsor Inn
Applebee's  Northeastern PA Philharmonic  Woodloch Pines
Cable Associates  Paper Magic Group Inc  Greater Scranton YMCA
Caesars Pocono Resorts  Penn Security Bank & Trust  Mary Ann Balko
Comfort Suites at Montage  Perkins Family Restaurant  Tessie & Carl Bauer
Coopers Seafood House  PNC Bank  Earl Beichler
Deutsch Institute  Price Chopper  Tony Cardell
Gerrity's Supermarkets  SWB Yankees  The Drobn Family
Gertrude Hawk Chocolates  Sno Mountain Resort  Nanci Frick
Giant Food Stores  Split Rock Resort  Linda Gable
HarperCollins Publishers  St. Joseph's Center  The Himchak Family
Hazzouri Dental  Stirmas Restaurant  Louise Krajiack
Man, Levy & Nogi Insurance  Stourbridge Line  Bonnie Maciak
McDonald's  Texas Roadhouse  Sharon McArdele
Medieval Times  Trinity Lutheran Church  Tim & Linda McHugh
Mendicino's Restaurant  UCP Adult Program  Albert Ondush

General & Membership Contributions

Received March 1 - July 31, 2009. If we have omitted or misspelled your name, or if you would prefer not to be listed, please contact us at 347-3357. Any corrections will be made in the next issue.

Donor Levels
$2,500 - Benefactor
$1,000 - $1,999 - Partner
$250.00 - $499.00 - Friend
$50.00 - $99.00 - Donor

FRIENDS
Wegman's

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Dr. & Mrs. John P. Burlein
Ms. Anne O. Padelford
Van Fleet Drilling Co.

DONORS
Bolus Freight Systems
Mrs. Elizabeth Kennedy
Ms. Marie J. Leach
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Lees
Mr. & Mrs. Saul Levy

SUPPORTERS
Bev & Jerry Klein
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph McFarland
Edward & Helen M. Derenick
Mr. Warren Lewis
Mrs. Betty Rowlands
Jim & Helen Mellon
UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania gratefully accepts contributions of any amount made in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. We send an acknowledgment to the donor and to the person being honored or the family of the individual being memorialized. If you would like more information, contact us at 570-347-3357 or ucpnepa@epix.net.

**In Memory of Ann Cullin Brown**  
Tracey Khalife

**In Memory of Lena Pacino**  
Doris Lindsley

**In Memory of Makel Stafford**  
Doris Lindsley

**In Memory of Lawrence Young**  
Doris Lindsley

**In Memory of Ted Bowie**  
Doris Lindsley

**In Memory of Leona Benjamin**  
Marie J. Savage Leach  
Virginia Selfridge

**In Memory of James Carter**  
Doris Lindsley

**In Honor of their wedding**  
Brad & Katie Cole

**In Honor of their grandson Brett March**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Perna

**In Memory of James E. Curran, III**  
Kathy Ruff  
Guy & Lucy Franko  
Dorothy McGowan  
Evelyn N. McCullian  
Irene M. Remmel  
Carolyn Jean Zimmerman  
Grace R. Navin  
Cheryl Camillo  
Susan Owens

**In Memory of Theo Faber Lumia**  
Dr. & Mrs. David Bradbury, Jr.  
Stan & Pattie Davies  
Janet Flack  
Howard M. Levinson  
Patricia Mack  
Maslow Lumia Bartorillo Advertising  
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Joan & Ruth Schooley  
Jean R. Hughes  
Joan T. Gelsler  
Jim Kane  
John Parsons  
Sharon & Dennis Rogers-Barron

Contributions were made to the Susan D. Keller Memorial Fund  
from Ralph W. & Frieda K. Robertson

**In Memory of**  
Mrs. Lois Davis, RN  
Barry Heim  
Charlotte M. McIntyre  
Harriet Bahl Andrews  
Maybert W. Emick

**In Honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Thomas and Marjorie Evans-Stevens**
The Mission of UCP
To provide opportunities and resources to individuals with disabilities as they build and lead their lives in the community. We do this by providing advocacy, home and community supports, and education.

UCP's Vision
UCP respects each person, her/his choices, and her/his contributions.

Non-Discrimination Statement
No person shall be excluded by UCP from services due to race, color, creed, sex, disability, age, national origin or limited English proficiency.

How to Contact UCP
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Scranton, PA 18503-1227
Phone: 570-347-3357     TTY: 570-347-3117
Toll free: 1-877-UCP-TECH Fax: 570-341-5308
Email: ucpnepa@epix.net Website: www.ucpnepa.com

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania
a non-profit, voluntary health agency serving those with cerebral palsy and other disabilities since 1953.

Linda B. Gable, President Sarah A. Drob, Executive Director
Member of - United Cerebral Palsy Association, Inc. • United Cerebral Palsy of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Association of Child Care Agencies • Pennsylvania Association of Resources: Autism - Intellectual Disabilities
Licensed by - Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare • Pennsylvania Department of Education
Primary program funding provided by: the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program of Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties, the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program of Wayne County • the Human Services Development Fund of Lackawanna County, the Human Services Development Fund of Wayne County • the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the United Way of Lackawanna County • the United Way of Wyoming County
the Pennsylvania Elks State Association • Pennsylvania’s Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)

UCP is registered with the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Charitable Organizations. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.