



United
Cerebral
Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania

NEWS

Life without limits for people with disabilities

Summer/Fall 2010

November is Assistive Technology Awareness Month

Since November is Assistive Technology Awareness Month, we thought we'd make you aware of some services the Assistive Technology Resource Center at UCP provides. From determining what type of equipment might work best to assistance with financing options, the ATRC at UCP works to help individuals with all types of disabilities become or remain active, productive members of their communities.

Linda Mesavage, our Assistive Technology Practitioner (ATP), can evaluate the person to determine what type of device is needed, based on his or her particular limitations as well as their abilities, and taking into consideration where and how the device will be used. She can also help the individual set up and learn how to use the device. Sometimes a number of devices may work for a person. This is where the ability to try out a device before purchasing comes in handy. As an ATRC, our program is the contact for PA's Assistive Technology Lending Library, thru which people can borrow devices for a short time so they can find the one that works best.

Once a device is decided upon, there are a number of programs our ATP can help the person

access in order to obtain it. The Reutilized and Exchanged Equipment Partnership (REEP) consists of several services that may be a source for previously owned devices. The REEP Classifieds is an online listing of devices that people are looking to sell or donate. Into New Hands and Liberty Wheels are among the programs that refurbish equipment for reuse. For those with disabilities that hamper their ability to use the telephone, Pennsylvania's Telecommunication Device Distribution Program (TDDP) provides specialized equipment free of charge.

If an individual needs to purchase a device, PA's Assistive Technology Foundation provides low and no-interest loans for people of all ages, income levels and disabilities. Our ATP can also help individuals investigate other financial assistance such as health insurance, public programs, and non-governmental sources.

The Lending Library, the REEP programs and the TDDP are all supported by PIAT, Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology, a statewide program created to ensure that all Pennsylvanians with disabilities have access to assistive technology devices and services.

A Few Updates...

TDDP

The list of approved equipment that this program provides free to eligible Pennsylvanians who have disabilities which impede them from having independent access to telephone services has changed only slightly this year. There is a new exceptions policy which creates a process to secure an appropriate device if it can be documented that none of the approved equipment will meet the needs of an eligible individual,

Wyoming County Services

The ATRC at UCP of NEPA recently received an expansion grant from the United Way of Wyoming County. The grant, awarded in June, has allowed for additional services in the county, as well as for the purchase of equipment for demonstrations and for the county's AT Lending Library. The grant will expire at the end of this year.

AT Lending Library

Budget cuts have made its services less accessible. To reduce costs some equipment is now housed at the regional ATRC's, each of which covers a large area. People who must now pick up and return equipment may face a long drive. The reduced funding is also causing repair and replacement problems resulting in longer wait lists for equipment. The result is that less people are getting the equipment they need.

Capital Campaign Update



The following individuals and businesses have made contributions to the Children's Center Capital Campaign since the last newsletter.

UCP thanks all those who have generously supported the campaign. Contributions are still being gratefully accepted.

FRIENDS

Man, Levy & Nogi Insurance
Abington Heights Civic League
Citizens Savings Bank
James & Linda Frangos

PATRONS

Linda M. Melvin
Anne O'Hora Padelford
Marilyn Vitali

DONORS

Dr. John P. Burlein
Janet Dobson
Gallagher Law Offices
Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Ginsberg
Mr. & Mrs. George A. Gumble

Miss Arlene Kohl
Carl & Virginia Marcks
in memory of Ralph & Freida K. Robertson
Ann & Leo Moskovitz
Zandy's Auto Service

SUPPORTERS

Barbara Burkhouse
Doris A. Lindsley
Bruce & Ruth Davies
Ralph & Judy Freeman
Angela Gard
in memory of Kevin Hallock
Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn
Sheryl S. Gross
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Klein
Ada E. Lindquist
in memory of Michael Bryant
Mark & Michele McDade
Kris Mitchell

Mr. & Mrs. John J. Pallo, Jr.
Santo Quatra
John & Constance Sanko
Maureen & Tim Walsh
Josephine Yesalavage
Mary Hart
Bill & June Mohan
Pietro's Restaurant
Linda Schuller
Joanne Scott
Janet Orlosky
Roland J. Borgacci
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Derenick

Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Malinowski
Betty Rowlands
Mr. Louis J. DiMattio
Rosalie Dziedzic
Mrs. Elma Starr

Donor Levels

\$2,500 and above - Benefactor
\$1,000 - \$2,499 - Partner
\$500.00 - \$999.00 - Associate
\$250.00 - \$499.00 - Friend
\$100.00 - \$249.00 - Patron
\$50.00 - \$99.00 - Donor
Up to \$49.00 - Supporter



**Volunteers are needed for UCP's annual
Benefit Gift Wrap
at the Viewmont Mall
November 26th - Christmas Eve
Contact us at 347-3357 for more information**

2010 Annual Meeting & Staff Appreciation Dinner

UCP of NEPA's 57th Annual Meeting was held in conjunction with the Staff Appreciation Dinner on June 22nd at the Melting Pot in Scranton.

Officers for the Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 term were installed. They are: Linda Gable, President; Ed Karpovich, Treasurer; and Marilyn Vitali, Secretary. David Walline rejoined the Board after a one-year rotation off. Staff members who were recognized for their years of service were Kelly LaMagna and Maria Savage for 15 years, and Janice Edmunds for 10 years.



Home Services nurse Ann Pusateri was honored for 20 years of service with the Pennsylvania Elks at their annual dinner. Her family joins her in the photo. Clockwise from left; daughter Karen Calpin, granddaughter Kaegan Calpin, Ann, daughter Theresa Schuster, and grandsons Brendan, Ryan and Shaun Calpin.

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania

Board of Directors

Officers

Linda B. Gable, *President*
Edward Karpovich, *Treasurer*
Marilyn Vitali, *Secretary*

Members

Anthony Cardell
John M. Darcy
Daniel Ginsberg, Ph.D.
Ralph Heller
Paul A. Kelly, Jr., Esq.
Louise Krafjack
Mary Jean Lynett
Barbara D. Noto
Robert Schwartz
Barbara Wagner
David Walline



Board officers for 2010 gather with staff honorees at the Annual Meeting. Standing; Ed Karpovich, Executive Director Sarah Drob, Marilyn Vitali, and Linda Gable. Seated; Janice Edmunds and Maria Savage.

2010 Golf Tournament

Twenty one foursomes braved the on-again/off-again showers (again!!) for the annual UCP Golf Tournament held at Stone Hedge Golf Course on Friday, July 16th. After golf, everyone enjoyed a steak dinner at the Lodge. We thank owner Tony Kenia and golf pro Billy Ramakus for their hospitality.

Major sponsors were:

- 🏌️ Durabilt Fence Co.
- 🏌️ McHale Heating & A.C.
- 🏌️ Magnotta Construction
- 🏌️ MACO
- 🏌️ Scranton Dodge
- 🏌️ Weis Markets

Thanks also to our volunteers; Sarah Drob, Shane Drapak, Sean McNamara, Dorothy Nichols and Linda McHugh. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit UCP's Early Intervention Services.



Winners of the 2010 Golf Tournament from left; Pat Duffy, Marc Tresky, Shane McNamara and Shawn McNamara.

Bonanza of Baskets Raffle

Our Bonanza of Baskets raffle took place on Sunday, June 13th after two weekend ticket sales at the local malls as well as selling thru the office during the month of May. A total of 56 baskets were raffled with proceeds from the sale benefiting UCP's Early Intervention services.

Our thanks to the staff and management of Boscov's in the Steamtown Mall and to the Viewmont Mall for allowing us to hold ticket sales.

We also express sincere gratitude to the many businesses, groups and individuals, listed below, who made and donated baskets.

American Dojo Karate	Deutsch Institute
Caesars Pocono Resorts	Gertrude Hawk Chocolates
Comfort Suites at Montage	Everything Natural
Elk Mountain Ski Resort	HarperCollins Publishers
Scranton Courtyard Marriott	WW Norton Book Co.
Nichols Village Hotel & Spa	Hazzouri Dental
Sno Cove Waterpark	Employees of Penn Security Bank
Split Rock Waterpark	Lynn Sandy's Cakes
Cooper's Seafood House	Granteed's Pizza
Pietro's	McDonald's
Rossi's Ristorante	John & Mary Ann Balko
Stirna's	Tessie & Carl Bauer
Texas Roadhouse	Earl Beichler
Woodloch Resort	Tony Cardell
Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs	John Darcy
Penn Security Bank	The Drob Family
SWB Yankees	Nanci Frick
Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament	Ann Harrington
Price Chopper	The Himchak Family
Wegman's	The Krafjack Family
Patsel's	Bonnie Maciak
Trinity Lutheran Church Youth Group	Sharon McArdle
AAA of NEPA	Tim & Linda McHugh
St. Joseph's Center	Linda Mesavage
UCP Adult Program	Carol Miller
Voluntary Action Center	Claudia Zehner

Executive Director's Message

Hello Everyone:

On behalf of the consumers, staff and Board of Directors of UCP of NE PA, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family all the best this holiday season.

We are gearing up for the holiday season with our annual wreath sale and our ever-popular Holiday Gift Wrapping at the Viewmont Mall. But as we plan for the busy holiday season, both professionally and personally, we are also taking this time to reflect and give thanks for the great year that we have had.

You, as friends, supporters and champions of UCP of NE PA, are really what we are most grateful for. Please know that everyone involved with UCP appreciates your time, commitment and financial support.

From our family to yours, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, a wonderful holiday and all the best in the New Year. Enjoy!

Sarah A. Drob

Memorial Contributions

Received February 1, - September 30, 2010

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 Sophia LaSorsa Bruno
Antoinette Howes

In Memory of Woodrow Leonard Bottomley
Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Ronnie Hamilton
George & Diane Marinchak

In Memory of Kenneth Clabough
The Alexander Family
The Beckwith Family
The Curtis Family
The Klassner Family
Mabel Klassner
The McMullen Family
Bill & Louise Jones
Jack & Carole Jordan
Lois E. Behlke
Eugene & Jean Marie Warpus
John H. Behlke
Early Intervention Professionals
Joyce Lewis

In Memory of William Hassel
Mr. & Mrs. Nabil Khalife

In Memory of Henry Sheridan
Mr. & Mrs. Nabil Khalife

In Memory of John Boylan
Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Irene Carlonas
Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Martha Voinski
Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of William Lathrop
Leo & Ann Moskovitz

In Memory of Delaney C. Sandercock
Cheryl Burger
Rebecca Gryczko
Sally McCullon

In Memory of Charles Mesnier
Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Saverio M. "Sam" DeNaples
The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of Dolores Walsh
Edward & Theresa Haefele & Family

In Memory of Rosemary Butler
Mary Louise Riley

In Memory of Jean Gerard
Jean LaSorsa & Family

General & Membership Contributions

Received February 1 - September 30, 2010. 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 2,499 - Partner
\$500.00 - \$999.00 - Associate
\$250.00 - \$499.00 - Friend

PATRONS

Penn Security Fund (for Lekotek)
Whittier Kindergarten Class of 2010
(proceeds from a bake sale)
James & Linda Frangos
PDQ (in-kind)

\$100.00 - \$249.00 - Patron
\$50.00 - \$99.00 - Donor
Up to \$49.00 - Supporter

DONOR

C. Martin & Ann Marie Kelly

SUPPORTERS

David Walline
Walter Kobierecki
Kevin Darcy

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 respects each person, her/his choices, and her/his contributions.

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

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania
425 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-1227

Website: www.ucpnepa.com

for the staff, volunteers and friends of the agency.
Barbara Siarkiewicz, *Editor*
We welcome your comments and suggestions. If there is an error in your address label, or if you have any questions regarding agency programs or services, please contact us.



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.

A United Way Agency

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Organization
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No. 1092
Scranton, PA

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania
425 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503-1227