



## A Family Affair

For children who have, or are at risk for, a developmental delay, early intervention helps them to reach developmental milestones. For the family of a child with special needs, the services may be more nuanced, but just as vital. Early intervention services provided by UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania for children with special needs may involve age appropriate educational activities, sensory motor activities, physical, speech and/or occupational therapy. These services are community based, that is, provided in the child's day care or preschool if they attend one, or at home if they do not. This gives the parents an opportunity for increased interaction with the staff and involvement in their child's developmental plan.

For Jorja and John Stugus, parents of four children, the two youngest of whom were born premature, participation in UCP



of Northeastern Pennsylvania's Early Intervention and Lekotek programs has already reaped benefits. Low birth weight is a common factor in the occurrence of a developmental delay. The couple's youngest, Olivia, was born at 26 weeks gestation and weighed just 1 lb. 13oz. Son Aiden was born at 31 weeks weighing 3 lbs. 13 oz. Both children were hospitalized for several months at birth and each was referred for early intervention services at about six months of age.

Olivia has been receiving physical therapy and special needs instruction from UCP staff. Now at just over one year old, she is beginning to walk, imitates actions and sounds, and loves to give kisses and perform "so big" for family and friends. Aiden is now 2 1/2 and loves tractors, being outside and building with blocks. He continues to receive special needs instruction as



*Aiden (left) and Olivia Stugus play at a recent Lekotek session.*

well as speech and occupational therapy. The fact that early intervention staff come to the house not only

makes sessions more comfortable for the children and allows for their therapy and educational activities to be incorporated into their daily routines, but also enables Jorja, John, and their other children McKenna, 5, and Taylor, 14, to participate if they choose.

Olivia and Aiden are also involved in UCP's Lekotek program, attending a session at the Clarks Summit Children's Center once a month. Lekotek is a family resource center that uses play strategies with typical and specially adapted toys to work on each child's developmental goals. Play is a natural way for children to learn and families to interact and since McKenna enjoys going to the Lekotek as well, Jorja makes sure to get a morning appointment since McKenna attends afternoon kindergarten.

## Annual Meeting/Staff Appreciation Dinner

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania held its 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Melting Pot in Scranton. Board officers for the coming year are: Dan Ginsberg, Ph.D., President; Ed Karpovich, Treasurer; and Marilyn Vitali, Secretary.

Linda Gable was recognized for her service as president for the past two years.

Mark Bennett was elected as a new board member, and Marilyn Vitali was installed as a Life Member. Barbara Wagner was recognized for her service as an outgoing member. Agency bylaws stipulate that non-life members must rotate off the board for at least one year after serving three 3-year terms.

As has been the practice, the Annual Meeting was combined with the Staff Appreciation Dinner. Recognitions were given to the following staff members: Tom Brunton for five years; Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn, Janet Burton, Theresa Butler, Executive Director Sarah Drob, Ken Keib, Jennifer Malak, and Tony Rosario, all for ten years; Ray Labutis, Tom Lord and Mike McAndrew, for 15 years; and Cheryl A. Burger, for 25 years.

See more photos from the dinner at [United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA on Facebook!](#)



*Board President Dan Ginsberg, with outgoing president Linda Gable and Executive Director Sarah Drob.*



*Staff members honored for their years of service included, (seated) Theresa Butler, Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn, Jennifer Malak and Sarah Drob. Standing, Mike McAndrew, Tom Lord, Cheryl Burger, Ray Labutis, Janet Burton, Ken Keib and Tony Rosario.*

### United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania

#### Board of Directors

##### Officers

Daniel Ginsberg, Ph.D., *President*  
Edward Karpovich, *Treasurer*  
Marilyn Vitali, *Secretary*  
Linda B. Gable,  
*Immediate Past President*

##### Members

Mark Bennett  
Anthony Cardell  
John M. Darcy  
Paul A. Kelly, Jr., Esq.  
Louise Krafjack  
Mary Jean Lynett  
Barbara D. Noto  
Robert Schwartz  
Deirdre Spelman  
David Walline

## Come Visit Our New Website!!

UCP of NEPA has a new website. Still at the same address, [www.ucpnepa.com](http://www.ucpnepa.com), the new site has a whole new look and a number of new features and capabilities.

The first thing you may notice is that there are a lot more pictures. The header on each page features photos from our own programs and the site also has the ability to run slide shows and videos. There is also a special page dedicated to the Children's Center Capital Campaign. We'll keep you up to date on the progress of the campaign and, once construction gets underway, you'll be able to see the new center take shape.

We invite you to log on and take a look around. And while you're there, click on the links to our Facebook and Causes pages and join us on those, too!

## Assistive Technology Programs Struggle with Funding Cuts

Each of the programs at UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania depends on a variety of funding sources to provide services. A portion of the funding for the Assistive Technology Resource Center at UCP is provided by PIAT, Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology. PIAT provides funding and other support for several services provided by the ATRC:

- Demonstrations- "hands on" opportunities to learn about different devices so individuals can make an informed decision about what will work best for them.
- Device loans – individuals can borrow devices from the commonwealth's AT Lending Library so they can make sure the device works for them in the course of their daily routine before they make a purchase.
- Information & Awareness Activities – information and referral to educate consumers about their choices of AT devices and services as well as exhibits and presentations at various community-based events to educate the public at large.
- Training events – outreach to service providers to increase their knowledge of assistive technology so they can better support the individuals they serve.

PIAT is striving to maintain these services despite decreasing funding in order to fulfill their mission "to enhance the lives of all Pennsylvanians with disabilities, older Pennsylvanians and their families, through access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and services, which allow for choice, control and independence at home, work, school, play, and in their neighborhoods."

### Many Individuals Still Unaware of TDDP

The Telecommunication Device Distribution Program provides adapted telephones and related equipment to people who have disabilities that impact their ability to access telephone services independently. The program has added a few new devices recently. For information visit [www.disabilities.temple.edu/tddp](http://www.disabilities.temple.edu/tddp) or contact the ATRC at UCP.



## Executive Director's Message

Friends of UCP

Happy Holidays! It is hard to believe that another year has passed and the holiday season is here again. As always, we are celebrating the holidays in style! Our annual wreath sale is underway and of course we will be Gift Wrapping. Christmas without UCP's Gift Wrap Booth at the Viewmont Mall is inconceivable! UCP of NE PA is also proud to be the recipient of the proceeds from Andy Gavin's "Flat and Fast" Green Ridge Mile Race. Each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving Andy Gavin's Pub & Eatery hosts the race. It is a wonderful community race that brings together family, friends and runners to support UCP of NE PA. We are so grateful for all of the support we receive from you and our community.

As Thanksgiving draws near it provides us with the opportunity to reflect on our continued blessings. The staff and members of the Board of Directors of UCP are grateful for your continued support. We are most thankful for the opportunity to serve the consumers and families of our community. We are thankful for your trust and your continued commitment to ensuring that all members of our community are safe, happy, healthy and active!

On behalf of the consumers, staff and members of the Board of Directors of UCP of NE PA we wish you a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season. We wish you all the best in the New Year.

Enjoy!

Sarah A. Drob



## Spring & Summer Events

### Bonanza of Baskets

The 2011 Bonanza of Baskets Raffle drawing took place on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Viewmont Mall after weekend ticket sales there and at Boscov's over Mother's Day weekend.

A total of 48 baskets were raffled, donated by numerous individuals and businesses in the area. Funds raised are being designated to the Lekotek program which serves children with special needs and their families thru programs at the Clarks Summit and Wayne County Children's Centers.

We thank Boscov's and the Viewmont Mall and everyone who supported the raffle by purchasing tickets and donating baskets.

#### Basket & Prize Donors

AAA of North Penn  
Boys & Girls Club of NEPA  
Caesars Pocono Resorts  
Catalano Importing  
Comfort Suites at Montage  
Deutsch Institute  
Dick's Sporting Goods  
Elk Mountain Ski Resort  
Gerrity's Supermarkets  
Giant Food Stores  
HarperCollins Publishers  
Hazzouri Dental  
Jewish Community Center  
Jewish Family Services of Lackawanna County  
Kay's Italian Restaurant  
Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament  
Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs  
Nichols Village Hotel & Spa  
North Pocono Garden Center  
Patsel's  
Penn Security Bank & Trust  
Price Chopper  
Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees  
Sisters of IHM  
Split Rock Resort  
St. Joseph's Center  
Stirnas Restaurant  
Texas Roadhouse  
UCP Early Intervention Staff  
Wegman's  
Woodloch Pines

John and Mary Ann Balko  
Tony Cardell  
The Drob Family  
Nanci Frick  
Linda Gable  
Lisa Golden  
Karen Himchak  
The Krafjack Family  
Melissa Krafjack  
Bonnie Maciak  
Thomas and Sharon McArdle  
Tim & Linda McHugh  
Carol Miller

#### Monetary Contributions:

Beichler's Greenhouse  
Earl Beichler  
Karen Kane  
Ron Rider



*Michael and Louise Krafjack work the raffle booth at the Viewmont Mall.*



*John Cavill sells tickets to a customer at the Bonanza of Baskets raffle at Boscov's.*

## 2011 Golf Tournament

For the first time in three years, the players at UCP's benefit Golf Tournament didn't have to dodge raindrops as they tried to hit drives, avoid the rough, and sink putts. The annual Golf Tournament benefiting UCP was held under warm sunny skies at Stone Hedge Country Club in Tunkhannock on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Proceeds from the tournament are designated this year for the Lekotek/Compuplay program which serves children and teens with special needs and their families.

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to our tournament sponsors:



**Durabilt Fence**

*Paul & Dorothy Nichols*



**First Liberty Bank**



**McHale Heating and Air Conditioning**

*Art McHale*



**G.R. Noto Electrical**

We also thank the volunteers who helped in a variety of ways during the day; Sarah Drob, Shane Drapek, Linda McHugh, Bridget Wheeler, Ellen Coyne and Paul May.

Thanks also to Board members Bob Schwartz and Ed Karpovich for their support.



*Congratulations to the winning foursome: Jim Mangan, Lefty McTiernan, Marty Flynn and Steve Warner.*

**Want to see more photos from the tournament? Visit our website or Facebook page!**

## "Fitstock for a Cause" Benefits UCP

The NEPA Fit Club conducted their second annual "Fitstock for a Cause" on Saturday, June 4th at Veterans Memorial Field in Jessup. This year, Fit Club owner Mike Marcinek donated proceeds from the event to United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA in honor of his brother Matt, who has cerebral palsy.

Fitstock is a half-hour workout "boot camp" consisting of a high energy total body workout blending strength training, cardio and flexibility routines. The boot camps, set to music, are the hallmark of NEPA Fit Club's classes. At Fitstock, live music was provided by the Jonny D band to help keep the participants moving and the spectators entertained.

We would like to thank all of the participants and especially NEPA Fit Club owner Mike Marcinek and his family, for their support of UCP.



*The Marcinek family; Matt (front) and Myron, Renee and Mike.*



*Participants go thru a routine at Fitstock for a Cause.*

**Check out a video from Fitstock! There's a link on our Facebook page.**



## UCP Gift Wrap

November 25th  
thru  
Christmas Eve

Like to wrap? Contact us to volunteer!

Don't like to wrap? Let us do it for you!!

## Family (cont'd from page 1)

After each monthly session, the family can borrow a few toys to use at home both for playtime and when early intervention staff comes to the house. Lekotek has also provided the opportunity for Jorja to see what toys the kids like to play with and what types of toys might help with their particular developmental needs. The involvement of parents and family in designing and implementing their child's individualized plan is a cornerstone of UCP's Children's Services. Just as the different services work together to help children achieve their goals, so does the family partner with the staff, asking questions, sharing ideas and being active participants in the effort to help their child reach every milestone.

## Thank You's

◆ Emily Lane and Desiree Kyle who donated funds raised thru their senior project at Athens High School to UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The girls conducted a Walk-a-Thon which was held at the school's track on June 26<sup>th</sup>. They decided to do a Walk-a-Thon since they both plan to major in health studies and fitness and chose UCP because of a friend who has cerebral palsy.

They shared responsibility for all aspects of the event including securing permission to use the school's facilities, publicizing the event and obtaining sponsorships so they could purchase food and prizes for the event.

Sponsors were; Tops Market, Wal-Mart, Country Lanes N'Rhodes, The Dandy, Howie's, Trinidad Tan, Urban Connection Salon and Spa, Nocchi's, Curves, Jeanine's Beauty Shop and New Image Gym.

◆ Dr. Nichole Danova at the Veterinary Referral & Emergency Center, who donated tickets for Kids Day at PNC Field for families who receive services thru the Clarks Summit Children's Center.

◆ The 11<sup>th</sup> District Pennsylvania American Legion, organizers of the Parade of Champions, which donated tickets for consumers in our Residential Program to attend.

## Donor Acknowledgments

Received April 1 – September 30, 2011

### *Donor Levels*

*\$2,500 – 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*

### PATRONS

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Mr. & Mrs. William A. Lees

Mrs. James Rogers

Ms. Marilyn Vitali

### DONORS

Mr. & Mrs. George A. Gumble

Mrs. Barbara D. Noto

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Mr. Roland Borgacci

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Edward & Helen M. Derenick

## Special Contributions

Received April 1 - September 30, 2001

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](mailto:ucpnepa@epix.net).

Francis Savage was the father of Regina Savage, who attends our Adult Program, and Craig Polansky was also a consumer in that program. Both families have been very supportive of UCP over the years and we extend our sympathies to them and thank them for designating memorial contributions to us.

In Memory of Francis L. Savage Sr.

Mary Jane Darrow  
Carolyn Renter  
Charles & Anne Hayden  
Joan W. Savage  
Marsden & Sarah Ulmanec  
Carolyn Saykewicz  
James J. Gillotti  
Marie J. Savage Leach  
Virginia Savage  
Donald R. Hazen  
Elizabeth McCafferty  
Kathryn, Mary & John Moran

In Memory of Dolores DiRienzo

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Richard Steffan

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Jean Kania

The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of Jean Kania

Jean LaSorsa

In Memory of Frank Gallo

Doris Lindsley & Margaret Arcangelo

In Memory of Jean Noble Colombo

Jean LaSorsa

In Memory of William J. Poepperling

George W. Parrish

In Memory of Stella Holdofsky

Dolores Rich

In Memory of Marjorie Thayer Foster

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of William J. Poepperling

Marguerite E. Futch

In Memory of Robert Craig Polansky

Michael Krafjack  
Deacon Edward & Patti Kelly  
The Fairburn Family  
The Cabets Family  
The Waitulavich Family  
Nancy & Regina & The Savage Family  
The Vincent Family – Kevin, Mary & Kevin Jr.  
Joanne Wilson  
Joan R. Kupetsky  
Wendy Rosetti  
Jim & Mary Lou Scoblick  
CSSI Inc.

In Memory of Donald Coons

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Gerald R. Howell

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Frances Gillott

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Floyd J. Yamialkowski

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Raymond Bonham

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Mr. Rowland

Nancy L. Savage

In Memory of Joseph Gwozdz

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Samuel Prisco

Doris A. Lindsley

HONORARIUM

In Honor of Cheryl A. Burger's 25 Years of  
Service to UCP  
Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn



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.



Please recycle

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.

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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
**PAID**  
Permit  
No. 1092  
Scranton, PA