



Assistive Technology - From the Classroom to the Workplace & Beyond

Often, when a student needs assistive technology in the school, at home, or both, it is likely that it will be needed in the future; in a college setting, the workplace or in the community. As part of the planning process for the transition from school to adulthood, assistive technology needs in all settings and circumstances should be considered.

By Pennsylvania law, the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team, which generally includes the student, parents, teachers and any therapists the student sees, should begin transition planning when the student turns 14.

After considering AT devices and services needed for reaching educational goals, the team should begin to identify "post school outcomes" and start thinking more broadly about how AT can help the student live more independently as an adult, and participate successfully in higher education, at work, and in the community. Listing any AT devices – low to high tech, specialized or "off the shelf" – that the student currently uses in school, at home and in the community is the first step. For each device on the list, the family and the team should think about the following: Who owns the device? Will the device be needed after graduation – for postsecondary education, employment, independent living, or to participate in

community activities? What services are currently provided by the school, if any, to support the use of the device and, if these services are needed after graduation, who will provide them? Because funding sources change as the student gets older, it is important to know who will pay for replacement devices, or different devices/services to meet changing needs in new environments and activities. For post-secondary education, students should know how to communicate

their needs to the office at their college that serves students with disabilities. As an employee, the individual should let the employer know about his/her needs for AT in the workplace, and understand the role of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation in planning to meet those needs. Transition is the time for the individual to think about using AT devices and services to become more independent.

As one of eight Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRC) across the state established by Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT), the ATRC at UCP of NEPA provides a number of services in Bradford, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Pike, Wayne and Wyoming Counties that can be utilized by students and their families as well as any Pennsylvanian.

(continued on page 3)



Quinn Feiock uses an Intel Reader, a device which takes a picture, turns it into text and then reads it aloud. The device was donated to the ATRC by Care Innovation an Intel GE Company.

New Board Members Welcomed, Staff Honored at Annual Meeting

UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania's 59th Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 26th at the Melting Pot in Scranton. There were no changes in Board officers for the 2012-2013 term. Officers are: Dr. Daniel Ginsberg, President; Ed Karpovich, Treasurer; and Marilyn Vitali, Secretary. Two members joined the Board over the past couple of months. They are Deidre Spelman and B. Lynn Hutchings.

As has been the practice for a number of years, the Staff Appreciation Dinner was held along with the meeting. Staff members recognized for their years of service were: Jean Bengtson for 25 years; Linda Mesavage for 15 years; Patti Dominick for 10 years; and Jane Sandman for 5 years.



Standing; Residential staff member Patti Dominick and Board President Dr. Daniel Ginsberg. Seated; Executive Director Sarah Drob and Linda Mesavage, Assistive Technology Practitioner.



Executive Director Sarah Drob and Board President Dan Ginsberg with new members Deidre Spelman and B. Lynn Hutchings.

Meet Our New Board Members

Two women joined the Board of UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania over the past few months and were officially welcomed at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

B. Lynn Hutchings is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Marywood University.

She previously worked as a Research Architect at New Jersey Institute of Technology concentrating in the area of environments for people with special needs. She was also Assistant Director of the Summit Art Center and Curator of the Middlesex County Museum.

She is a member of the Gerontological Society of America and the American Association of Public Health and is active with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lackawanna County and the Women's Resource Center.

Deirdre Spelman is a Social Worker and Director of Field Education at Marywood University's School of Social Work and Administrative Studies. She holds a BA in Psychology from Mansfield State College and an MSW from Marywood. She has been a Social Worker for 40 years and in addition to locally, has practiced in central Pennsylvania and the southern tier of New York.

She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the Council on Social Work Education, the PA Association of School Social Work Personnel, Temple Hesed Sisterhood and the Tri State Consortium of Field Directors. She also serves on the Board of Jewish Family Services.

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
B.Lynn Hutchings
Paul A. Kelly, Jr., Esq.
Louise Krafjack
Mary Jean Lynett
Barbara D. Noto
Deirdre Spelman
David Walline

Connect with UCP of NEPA!

- ◆ "Like" us on Facebook - we're United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA
- ◆ Become a Fan on United Way of Lackawanna County's "Get Connected" Page - go to <http://uwlc.galaxydigital.com>, click on "Join" to sign up, then click on the Agency tab, find United Cerebral Palsy and click "Become a Fan"

Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Early Intervention

UCP's annual Golf Tournament was held on Friday, July 13th at Stone Hedge Country Club in Tunkhannock. Eighty four people participated in the event, which began with a shotgun start at 1 pm and culminated with a steak dinner in the resort's new clubhouse.

Special thanks to Two Mattress Men, donors of a \$1,000 gift certificate.

Other major sponsors were:



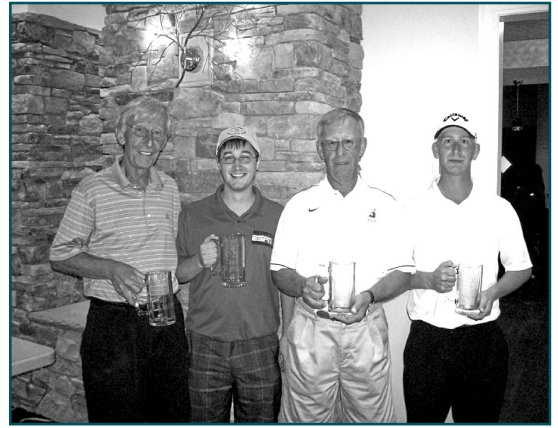
Durabilt Fence



G.R. Noto Electrical



Michael A. Barbetti, CPA.



Winners of UCP's Golf Tournament display their trophies. From left; Gene Karpovich, Michael Karpovich, Ed Karpovich Sr., and Ed Karpovich, Jr.

We also thank tournament volunteers Linda McHugh, Kyle Noone, Sarah Drob, Ellen Coyne and Chris McHugh for all their assistance.

Proceeds from the tournament benefit UCP's Early Intervention Services. Early intervention consists of therapy services and educational activities provided for children with developmental disabilities or delays. These services are provided in the child's home or in area day care or preschool programs they attend.

Assistive Technology (continued from page 1)

The ATRC can help individuals access programs such as: the PA Assistive Technology Lending Library, through which they can borrow devices to find what works best for them; the Telecommunications Device Distribution program, which provides specialized equipment to those whose disability impedes their access to telephone services; PA's Assistive Technology Foundation, which provides low and no-interest loans for the purchase of devices; and several PIAT supported programs that may be a source for "previously-owned" devices which are generally less expensive than new.

Executive Director's Message

Happy Holidays! On behalf of the consumers, staff and Board of Directors of UCP of NE PA, we hope that you and your family are enjoying all the blessings of this holiday season.

As is often the case during this time of year, we look back and reflect on all that has happened during the year. UCP of NE PA continues to be blessed by the generosity of our friends, neighbors and supporters. We are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to support us through their financial donations and/or the donation of their time and talents.

This year, like so many others, has had its ups and downs. We continue to struggle with consistent and appropriate funding to maintain the supports and services we provide to individuals with disabilities and their families. We have witnessed the strength of people with disabilities and their families as they advocate for themselves and others. Nationwide we have seen the generosity of our citizens as they have come to the aid of Americans in need. As 2012 comes to a close and we look forward to the possibilities that the New Year brings, we are confident that with your continued support UCP of NE PA will continue to assist people with disabilities to have a life without limits.

We hope that you have a wonderful holiday and we wish you happiness, health and peace in the New Year.

With Warm Regards,
Sarah A. Drob

Bonanza of Baskets Benefits Lekotek/Compuplay

UCP's annual Bonanza of Baskets Raffle drawing was held on Saturday, May 12th at Boscov's in the Steamtown Mall after ticket sales there and at the Viewmont Mall the previous weekend. A total of 55 baskets and gift packages were raffled, with the proceeds benefiting our Lekotek and Compuplay programs. We thank the following business and individuals who donated baskets and prizes. Special thanks to the management of Boscov's and the Viewmont Mall for their support.

Basket Donors

AAA of North Penn	John and Mary Ann Balko
Boys & Girls Club of NEPA	Caesars Pocono Resorts
Tony Cardell	Cinemark
Comfort Suites at Montage	John Darcy
The Drob Family	Nanci Frick
Friendship House	Linda Gable
Gerrity's Supermarkets	Harrington Beverage
HarperCollins Publishers	Jewish Community Center
Jewish Family Services	Kay's Family Restaurant
The Krafjack Family	Bonnie Maciak
Sharon McArdle	Tim and Linda McHugh
Mendicino's Restaurant	Carol Miller
National Book Company, Inc.	North Pocono Garden Center
Albert Ondush	Paper Magic Group Inc
Penn Security Bank & Trust	PNC Bank
Sam's Club	Lynn Sandy's Cakes
Scranton Courtyard Marriott	Serving Seniors
Smith's Restaurant	St. Joseph's Center
Wegman's	WNEP TV
Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees	Texas Roadhouse
YMCA - Carbondale	

Monetary Contributions

Earl Beichler	Beichler's Greenhouse
Hazzouri Dental	Barbara D. Noto

Holiday Gift Wrap

*at the Viewmont Mall
(in front of The Gap)*

November 23rd thru December 24th

Opens Daily at Noon

Proceeds benefit UCP's Early Intervention Program

NEPA Fit Club Donates to UCP of NEPA



Mike Marcinek, center, owner of NEPA Fit Club in Jessup, presents a check for \$2,605 to Dr. Dan Ginsberg, President of the Board of Directors of UCP of NEPA and Sarah Drob, Executive Director. The check represents proceeds raised in the Fit Club's third annual FitStock for a Cause, held at Memorial Stadium in Jessup on Saturday, June 2nd. FitStock is an intense, half-hour workout set to live music which was provided by the Jonny D Band. This year, the Fit Club also hosted a motivational seminar conducted by Matt Marcinek a.k.a. The Disabled Grappler, the evening before the workout and a happy hour at Caverna on Saturday after the workout as part of the festivities surrounding FitStock.

* * * * *

The Scranton Area Foundation and CVS Caremark

Award Grants to Lekotek

UCP recently received grants from both CVS Caremark and the Scranton Area Foundation, both in support of our Lekotek program.

Lekotek provides services for children and adolescents with disabilities and their families.

Special Contributions

Received April 1, - October 31, 2012

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 William "Billy" Barkasy
Amy L. Carter

In Memory of William "Billy" Barkasy
Beverly Lydon

In Memory of Lester Gordon
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of Mary Margaret Terruso
Francis Ferri & Family

In Memory of Mary Margaret Terruso
Anita, Marguerite and Joseph Terruso

In Memory of Frank DeStefano
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of Nancy Luciani
Nancy, Regina and Francis Savage & Family

In Memory of Karen Hoyt
The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of Freda Brown
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of John Dombrosky
Marie J. Savage Leach

In Memory of John Dombrosky
Nancy, Francis & Regina Savage

In Memory of John Dombrosky
Virginia Savage

In Memory of Marion Borgacci
Roland Borgacci

In Memory of Edward V. "Buddy" Kania
The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of Edward V. Kania
Jean LaSorsa

In Memory of Wellington Columbo
Jean LaSorsa

In Memory of Maria Jones
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of Dr. James Loughlin
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of James Curran III
Guy & Lucille Franko

In Memory of William Henkleman
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of Austin C. Sicher, Jr.
The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of Josephine Brunori
Doris Lindsley

In Memory of Sharon Brace
Doris Lindsley

General & Membership Contributions

Received April 1 - October 31, 2012

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

Friends

Carole and David Hamersly

Patrons

Mr. & Mrs. William A. Lees
Edward Randazzo

Donors

Mr. John M. Darcy

Supporters

Barbara Burkhouse

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, Pennsylvania 18503-1227