



United  
Cerebral  
Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania

## NEWS

*Life without limits for people with disabilities*

Winter/Spring 2010

### Travel Gives Residential Consumers Chance to Expand Their Horizons

The underlying idea in providing services to adults with developmental disabilities in community living arrangements (CLAs) instead of institutional settings is the added benefit of being part of the community in which they live.

In the CLAs adults are provided skills training

favorite destination of many of the consumers for several years. The Wyoming Conference runs the camps in upstate New York for children



*Kate Beilman and Maureen O'Hara in the Caribbean.*

and teens as well as for adults with special needs. Individuals go for a week in the summer and/or winter to enjoy a variety of seasonal activities. In addition, the residents from one or more of the CLAs occasionally go on an overnight or weekend trip together. Sometimes these outings involve an educational or cultural activity – last year, the men from the Matthew Ave. house visited the Corning Museum of Glass. But sometimes it's

just about getting away from the usual routine. Sharon McHugh, Patty Sterling and Janet Austin rented a cabin at Keen Lake in Waymart with John Cavill, Ralph DeRubertis and Joe Maciejewski.

Of course, everyone has their own tastes and interests so residential staff, sometimes working with The Guided Tour, Inc., a company that specializes in arranging supervised travel and recreational opportunities for persons with mental and/or physical challenges, have helped consumers make arrangements for a variety of individual travel adventures. John Cavill probably wins the frequent, not to mention diverse travel award, having enjoyed the, um... "scenery"



to increase their level of independence, along with any needed medical, educational, and vocational services while they enjoy activities and events alongside their fellow citizens.

Travel to other places seems a natural extension of that concept. Many of the consumers living in the CLAs operated by United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania have had the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of travel. Sky Lake Camp has been a



*John Cavill's Hawaii trip*

in Hawaii, (check out the pictures!) gone on an Elvis Cruise and a visit to Graceland, a Bowling

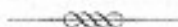
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## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

### BENEFACTORS

Penseco Foundation

PNC Foundation



### PARTNERS

PPL Corporation

George Holden

Scranton Label Inc.



### ASSOCIATES

Tony Cardell

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PODS (Parents of Down Syndrome)



UCP thanks all those who have contributed thus far to the Capital Campaign for our new Children's Center.

If you would like to donate toward this effort, please use the response card and envelope included in this newsletter.

Thank you.



### FRIENDS

Chad Altier

Abington Heights Civic League

Dan & Ann Marie Cardell

Michael T. Kane

Barbara D. Noto

P.A. Hutchinson Co.

Annabelle & James Rogers, Jr.  
*in memory of Theo Lumia*



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*in memory of Susan D. Keller*

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Zandy's Auto Service

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### 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

### Bonanza of Baskets Raffle Ticket Sales

Bosco's Steamtown Mall  
Sat/Sun June 5th & 6th

Viewmont Mall  
Sat/Sun June 12th & 13th

Drawing Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 in the  
Viewmont Mall

### 2010 Golf Tournament

Friday, July 16th  
Stone Hedge Golf Course, Tunkhannock

Start Time 1:00pm

## Lending Library Faces Cutbacks

Pennsylvania's Assistive Technology Lending Library is primarily funded with state dollars, supplemented by some federal funding through Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT). In addition, small cash donations from appreciative borrowers, as well as in-kind donations from various vendors and manufacturers help support the program.

Each year, the Lending Library helps thousands of Pennsylvanians with disabilities to find the assistive technology that can help them at work, in school and in their daily activities. People can also borrow the device they need while they wait for funding or for the repair of their own device. This unique program operates through a centralized inventory that ships a device to a borrower anywhere in the Commonwealth.

The Lending Library has already endured several years of funding cutbacks that have negatively impacted the overall inventory of devices as well as the addition of the newest products on the market. Additional losses in state funds may have a number of negative impacts on consumers including:

- ◆ Continued and longer wait lists for the most popular devices
- ◆ Lack of current products
- ◆ Borrowers paying for part or all of the shipping costs
- ◆ Borrowers needing to pick up and return devices to their regional ATRC
- ◆ A rental or "membership fee" for providers who borrow devices for activities like assessments
- ◆ A rental or "membership fee" for university faculty who borrow devices for class presentations

If you or someone you know uses assistive technology and the services of the lending library, we urge you to stay informed of the impact the budget process has on these programs and to inform your legislators of your concerns.

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CORNER  
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## Groups Donate to UCP

A number of local community organizations donated the proceeds from events they held to UCP.

We thank them for their efforts and their support of UCP.



Members of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Class of 2010 at the University of Scranton display one of the blankets they sold to raise funds which they donated to UCP's Capital Campaign for the new Children's Center.

Front row: Julia Krinsky, Michelle Stenkiewicz, Meg Andregic and Ray Ednie.

Middle row: Nick Rodio, Silke Reddington, John Beskal and Don Shipe.

Back row: Donny Do, Efosa Guobadia and Lou DeMark.

## United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania

### Board of Directors

#### Officers

Linda B. Gable, *President*  
Edward Karpovich, *Treasurer*  
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*Immediate Past President*

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Louise Krafjack  
Mary Jean Lynett  
Barbara D. Noto  
Robert Schwartz  
Barbara Wagner

## Thanks Also to....

☆ Andy Gavin's Pub and the organizers of the Green Ridge Mile, a 5K race which takes place each year over Thanksgiving weekend, with proceeds benefiting UCP.

☆ Clear Run Elementary Center donated the proceeds from their Game Night, a part of their Different Abilities Awareness Week events. The funds went to support UCP's Lekotek program.

☆ The Coal Cracker Cruisers Car Club held a Car Show at Quaker Steak & Lube, and donated the proceeds to UCP.

## General & Membership Contributions

Received August 1, 2009 – January 31, 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

\$100.00 - \$249.00 – Patron

\$50.00 - \$99.00 – Donor

Up to \$49.00 – Supporter

### ASSOCIATE

Wesel Foundation

### FRIEND

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Mr. Larry Shiffer

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Ms. Barbara Burkhouse

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Mr. Roland Borgacci

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## Lekotek Awarded Grant

UCP of NEPA has received a grant from UCP National for our Lekotek program.

Lekotek is a toy lending and resource center which provides services for children and teens with special needs and their families.

Lekotek uses typical and adapted toys and the program's Compuplay component uses computer games and activities to enhance both the child's development and the family's interaction.



*Sherry Hall on an Atlantic City bowling trip*

weekend in Atlantic City and played cowboy at a Dude Ranch in the mountains of New York.

Caroline Perry is another fan of "The King", having visited Graceland and Branson, Missouri for among other things, a show called The Elvis Experience. She has also visited Disney World.

Maureen O'Hora has racked up the nautical miles, having taken cruises to beautiful ports of call like Aruba, Nova Scotia and Bermuda.

Kate Beilman enjoyed shows, shopping and slots in Las Vegas, and Sherry Hall took a train excursion thru scenic New Hampshire and enjoyed the Bowling Weekend in Atlantic City. And even though David Woodbine doesn't travel far, he enjoys going for an overnight stay in different hotels in the area with a staff member - mostly to order room service. Now seriously, who doesn't like that?



*Even at home, the residential consumers know how to have a good time. Ralph DeRubertis, a huge polka fan, was thrilled when John Stankovic, aka Stanky of Stanky & the Coalminers performed at his birthday party.*

## Executive Director's Message

Hello Everyone:

I hope all is well with you and that you are enjoying the wonderful weather we have been experiencing. With the arrival of spring come the beautiful flowers, the sometimes dramatic change in weather and of course, discussion regarding Pennsylvania's operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year. I would love to tell you that this year is different, but unfortunately I can't. For the first time in a long time, the Governor's proposed budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year has a cut to the Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation system. In the proposed budget the state is looking to decrease it's funding of the Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation system by 6.1 million dollars. If the state does reduce it's funding to the ID/MR system, we in turn lose 11.2 million in federal match money, for a total reduction of 17.3 million dollars. It is important to understand that individuals with intellectual disabilities/mental retardation and the providers who support them are already using these funds. Historically our efforts have concentrated on obtaining additional funding to offset the costs associated with supporting people with disabilities. Now we are concentrating our efforts to get back to zero.

We are all aware of the economic difficulties that have plagued our nation and our state. We understand that we need to tighten our belts, be mindful of our spending and do our part to help our local communities, state and our nation get back on their feet. But balancing the budget by reducing the financial support for people with disabilities is counter productive in achieving that objective.

If you have the opportunity I would ask that you contact your Representatives in the House and Senate and let them know how you feel about this proposed cut to the Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation system. In the past when we have spoken with one voice we have been able to effect changes that have been positive for people with disabilities. I am confident that if we speak to our legislators with one voice in regard to restoring the funding cuts, we will once again be successful.

Take care,  
Sarah A. Drob

## Holiday Events Recap

UCP's Holiday fund-raisers and events were once again a success.

Our thanks to everyone who participated in the Gift Wrap, Wreath Sale and Angel Tree project.

### 2009 Gift Wrap

UCP's annual Gift Wrap fundraiser was held at the Viewmont Mall from "Black Friday," November 27<sup>th</sup> thru Christmas Eve.

#### Volunteer Groups Included:

Abington Heights High School National Honor Society  
Abington Heights High School Student Council  
Alpha Iota Sorority  
Bank of America Employees  
Carbondale Area High School Student Council  
DGM Theatre Group  
Fell Charter School Faculty  
Gertrude Hawk Chocolates Employees  
The Gilgallon Family  
Girl Scout Troop #60  
Hickory Street Presbyterian Church Members  
Kiwanis Club of Scranton  
Lackawanna College Students  
Mid-Valley High School Leo Club  
North Pocono High School FBLA  
Prudential Asset Management Co. Employees  
Scranton Prep National Honor Society  
Volunteers in Paupack  
Western Wayne High School S.A.D.D.

### Angel Tree Donations



*Donna Cottone, Personnel Programs & Assistance Supervisor for General Dynamics presents some of the gifts staff donated for UCP's Angel Tree project to UCP Director of Operations Tim McHugh.*

The Viewmont Mall's providing of space for us to conduct this event and the help of all of these groups plus many individuals – consumers and their families, staff and Board members make it possible for us to conduct this event each year.  
Thank you, everyone.

About 200 children served thru the programs of UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania received gifts this past Holiday season thanks to the generosity of our Angel Tree partners:

- \* Employees of General Dynamics Ordinance & Tactical Systems – Scranton Operations
- \* Employees of Moses Taylor Hospital
- \* Members of Trinity Lutheran Church

Our sincere thanks to all.



*Sue Glinsky, a social worker at Moses Taylor Hospital, Tim McHugh, of UCP, and Jennifer Karlavage, also a social worker for Moses Taylor, display some of the gifts hospital staff donated for children in UCP's programs.*



## Special Contributions

Received August 1, 2009 - January 31, 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 Theo Faber Lumia

Margaret M. Carter

In Memory of Barry Remley

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Arthur G. Pallman

The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of William Lathrop

Cheryl A. Burger

In Memory of Mary Elizabeth Zeiss

Doris A. Lindsley

In Memory of Warren M. Thompson

The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of William Lathrop

Sally McCullon

In Memory of Harold Solsman

The Ronald Krafjack Family

In Memory of James E. Curran, III

Daniel Boltz

In Memory of Mary Gibley

Doris A. Lindsley

In Honor of

Jack Lesniak's 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn

In Memory of John F. Gilroy

Frank, Francis, Nancy & Regina  
Savage

In Memory of Theo Faber Lumia

Larry & Kate Churnetski

Mr. & Mrs. Robertson were longtime supporters of UCP. We extend our condolences to their family and our thanks for designating UCP a recipient of contributions in their memory.

Mr. LaSorsa and Mrs. Bruno were siblings of Board Member Louise Krafjack. Our condolences to Louise and her family and our thanks for their support.

In Memory of Frieda K. Robertson

The Bungardy Family

In Memory of Daniel J. LaSorsa

Joseph Bruno & Family

Rita Fenton

Robert F. Cudworth

Doris A. Lindsley

Helen D. Demetry

Michael Dziak, Jr.

Betty English

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Susan Burns, Linda Cerra, Diane Mazurkivich,  
Amanda O'Brien, and Sue Marsico

Friends of Ralph Robertson

Granddaughter Laura Evans' Lunch Bunch

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Elizabeth S. Lamm

Debbie Fay Miller, Ross Miller, Katie Miller,  
Dave Miller and Mr. & Mrs. David Miller

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John & Sandra Maier

Ralph K. Robertson

Brian & Mimi Rosetti

West Scranton High School

In Memory of Ralph W. & Frieda K. Robertson

The Kenneth Dixon Family

In Memory of Sophia LaSorsa Bruno

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kania

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Maira

Mrs. Margaret Smicherko

### 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

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

Phone: 570-347-3357

Toll free: 1-877-UCP-TECH

Email: [ucpnepa@epix.net](mailto:ucpnepa@epix.net)

TTY: 570-347-3117

Fax: 570-341-5308

Website: [www.ucpnepa.com](http://www.ucpnepa.com)

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425 Wyoming Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18503

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.



*Please recycle*

**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

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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.