



Rae-minders

Every newsletter, Rae D. Baldino, our Director of Communications, will use this section to list UCP of NEPA's upcoming fundraisers and events. If you want to get involved, donate, volunteer, have questions or ideas, her door is always open. Please reach out to Rae at (570)347-3357, ext.33 or (570) 589-7414 or r.baldino@ucpnepa.org.

HOLIDAY WREATHS & MORE

At the start of November, we will once again be having our holiday wreath sale, offering two styles of wreaths and centerpieces as well as window swags and door charms. **Order forms will be available at our Scranton and Clarks Summit offices as well as online.** Please contact Rae for more.



GREEN RIDGE MILE

The Annual Green Ridge Mile is always held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year it will be **November 30**, starting at **1PM** at the 2300 block of North Washington Street in Scranton and end at Andy Gavins. Sponsorships are also available. For more details, contact Rae.



HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING

From **November 29 to December 24**, we will have our gift wrapping stand at the Viewmont Mall. We are looking for volunteers for **three shifts: 12pm - 4pm, 4pm - 7pm, 7pm to close**. All proceeds benefit our Children's Services programming.

You can sign up at givegab.com/nonprofits/ucpnepa or contact Rae.



425 Wyoming Ave
Scranton, PA 18503

phone: 570.347.3357
fax: 570.341.5308
website: www.ucpnepa.org



Donation Highlights



Memorial Donations



Employee Empowerment



Our Donors



Rae-minders



Grants



Residential



Letter from the CEO



Special Events



Want your newsletter emailed to you instead?
Just let us know by emailing us at info@ucpnepa.org!



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UCP OF NEPA

Limitless

Life without limits for people with disabilities

FALL 2019
NEWSLETTER

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Director of Adult Day Program



We're BACK!

Hello!

UCP of NEPA's newsletter is back! Although it's been a while since we published a newsletter, we have continuously worked to meet the needs of the individuals and families we serve. We've welcomed new individuals and staff to UCP of NEPA and have said goodbye to cherished friends and employees.

We've purchased two new homes with floor plans that better meet the needs of the persons we serve in our Residential Program. Our Adult Day Program has been working to implement new initiatives from the state ensuring persons with disabilities are active participants in their community. Our Children's Services and Assistive Technology Program continue to evolve and grow.

With the reintroduction of our newsletter, we are working to keep you up to date on all that is happening at UCP of NEPA. It has often been said that UCP of NEPA is one of the best kept secrets in Northeast PA. We are actively working to make sure that is no longer true! We have revamped our website, increased our presence on social media and have just recently launched a staff recruitment billboard campaign. Great things continue to happen at UCP of NEPA and we want to make sure you know about them!

Thank you for your continued support of UCP of NEPA and the people we serve. I hope you enjoy the newsletter!

Take Care,



Sarah A. Drob
Chief Executive Officer



Summertime FUN

Above are some of our consumers from Children's Program, Adult Day Program, Home Service Program and Residential Program enjoying their summer celebrating birthdays, hiking, cooking, attending camps, going to the circus, gardening and going to a WWE Live Wrestling Match!





Moses Taylor Foundation **AWARDS UCP \$20,000 GRANT**



We are pleased to announce that The Moses Taylor Foundation recently awarded UCP of NEPA's Lekotek Program a \$20,000 grant.

Lekotek is a unique learning and resource center and toy lending library serving children with special needs from birth to 12 years of age and their families. Since play is a natural way for children to learn and for families to interact, using Lekotek play strategies and adapted toys helps enhance the child's development and improves family interactions.

L to R: Rae D. Baldino, Director of Communications & Development, UCP; Marilyn A. Vitali, Board President, UCP; Jeff Smith, Program Officer, Moses Taylor Foundation and Sarah A. Drob, CEO, UCP.



Local Organizations **DONATE TO UCP**

We have been very fortunate in 2019 and have received donations from one local community organization and one school in Lackawanna County. We are very grateful to both groups for their generosity.

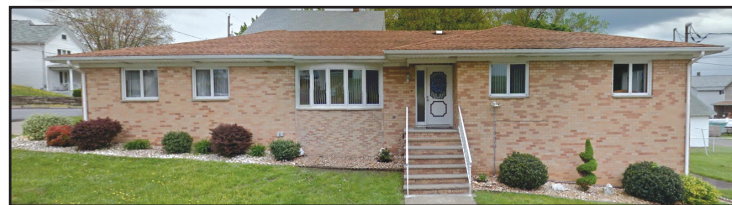
Abington Heights Civic League donated \$1,000 to UCP of NEPA's Capital Campaign efforts to rebuild the Children's Center, located in Clarks Summit. Pictured from L to R: Gretchen Eagen Mackie, President, AHCL; Cheryl Burger, Director of Children's Services, UCP; Georgiann Eccleston, Donations Committee Co-Chair, AHCL; Susan Griffiths, Treasurer, AHCL; Sarah A. Drob, CEO, UCP; Jan Klusza, Donations Committee, Co-Chair, AHCL; Jennifer Bachan-Breiten, Donations Committee, AHCL.



Carbondale Area Junior and Senior High Life Skills classes baked a variety of sweet treats to sell in their school store for a period in the month of March. The students raised awareness for Developmental Disabilities Awareness month and donated \$200 to UCP of NEPA. First row, L to R: Isabelle Palmiter, Sara Thomas, Nathan Cecchini, Amber Ogonowski and Emma McHale. Second row, L to R: Blake Rude, Eugene Lloyd, Paul Thomas, Brandon Rosario, Ryan James and Michael Reilly. Back row from L to R: Samantha Masco, Life Skills, Carbondale Area; Sarah A. Drob, CEO, UCP; Rae D. Baldino, Director of Communications & Development, UCP; Nicole Karausky, Special Education, Carbondale Area.



Our New Residential Homes in Scranton



Memorial Contributions **FROM JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2019**

In Memory of Sharon L. Tolerico Calautti
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Barrie Ellison
THE RONALD KRAJACK FAMILY

In Memory of Michael Anthony Esposito, Jr.
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Stephen K. Fellows, Jr.
BARBARA A. FELLOWS
CARL & LOUISE MAJESKI

In Memory of Milton Hobbs
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Phyllis Hoyle
FRANCIS, NANCY & REGINA SAVAGE

In Memory of David Jones
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Paul Krajovich
NANCY & REGINA SAVAGE

In Memory of Susan Kulp
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Lawrence Laureynas
FRANCIS, NANCY & REGINA SAVAGE

In Memory of Anne McDonough
FRANCIS, NANCY & REGINA SAVAGE

In Memory of Sarah Pinto Palermo
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

In Memory of Virginia Selfridge
CHARLES & ANN HAYDEN
JOAN & STEPHANIE SAVAGE
FRANCIS, NANCY & REGINA SAVAGE
CAROL SAYKEWICZ
MR. & MRS. RICHARD YUSAVITZ

In Memory of Barbara Siarkievicz
ANONYMOUS UCP VOLUNTEER

In Memory of Eugene Varzaly
DORIS LINDSLEY

In Memory of Frances K. Sheerer Walsh
ANN MARIE ALBRECHT
MARGARET CANNON
MARYANN LANGAN
WALSH SHEET METAL, INC.
THE WULLERT FAMILY

When you donate **TO UCP OF NEPA** you are investing in an organization that helps individuals with disabilities live their lives without limits. Your generous donation will help support our programming for special needs children and adults in our community. *Send this form in with payment.*



I WANT TO DONATE AND COMMIT TO BEING A:
(check one)

- ☐ UCP VISIONARY: \$75,000 - \$100,000
- ☐ UCP BARRIER BREAKER: \$50,000 - \$74,999
- ☐ UCP PATH FINDER: \$20,000 - \$49,999
- ☐ GOLD CIRCLE MEMBER: \$15,000 - \$19,999
- ☐ TEAL CIRCLE MEMBER: \$10,000 - \$14,999
- ☐ GREEN CIRCLE MEMBER: \$5,000 - \$9,999

- ☐ UCP BUILDER: \$2,500 - \$4,999
- ☐ UCP BELIEVER: \$1,000 - \$2,499

- ☐ FRIEND OF UCP: \$500 - \$999
- ☐ PATRON OF UCP: \$250 - \$499
- ☐ SUPPORTER OF UCP: up to \$249

Payments can be made out to UCP of NEPA and mailed to UCP of NEPA, 425 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18503.

*DONATION AMOUNT \$ _____

*Method of Payment: (check one)

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card

*Card/Chck#: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Zip Code: _____
(* cc only) (* cc only)

*Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

*Phone Number: _____

*Email: _____

*Signature: _____

*Date: _____ **required fields*



Our Donors FROM JANUARY 2018- JUNE 2019

GREEN CIRCLE

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Green Ridge Mile Associates

UCP BELIEVERS

(\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Abington Heights Civic League

FrontStream

Irene Matto Trust

PNC Bank

Kiwanis Club of Scranton

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(\$500 - \$999)

Employees of HarperCollins Publishers

William & Mary Jean Lynett

The Society of Irish Women

PATRONS OF UCP

(\$250 - \$499)

Abingtons Lions Club

Community Bank, NA

Edward & Anne Padelford

SUPPORTERS OF UCP

(Up to \$249)

Bank of America

Leah and Tom Amico

Teresta Bauer and Family

Carbondale Area Junior/Senior High School Life Skills Class

Kathy Croft

Green Ridge Mile Supporters

Richard Grimm

Kathryn Holod

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Ruta Labutis

Martin McGurrin

Richard Naniewicz

Proctor & Gamble

Cynthia Rossi

Maria Russoneillo

Kathleen Sottile

R. Sylvia Tagert

Target

David Walline

Courtney Washo



Tournament winners:
Robert Jones, Jr.,
Ernie DeStefano,
Wade Bailey, and
Mike Fanning



12th Golf Tournament RAISES \$10,000 FOR EARLY INTERVENTION

Our 2019 Benefit Golf Tournament was held on Friday, July 12 at Stone Hedge Golf Course in Tunkhannock. More than 80 participated in the event, which helped raise over **\$10,000** for Early Intervention Services. The event concluded with dinner and awards. The day would not have been possible without the help of volunteers **Linda McHugh** and **Bridget Wheeler**. The cupcakes **Dave** and **Carol Walters** brought were delicious and we appreciate all of **Paul May's** support too. Special thanks to **Two Mattress Men** for donating a queen size mattress, our top prize, as well as all our sponsors of the tournament including our corporate sponsors. Also, a special shout out to our own **Tim McHugh**, COO, for coordinating the event and **Stone Hedge Golf Course** for their hospitality.

UCP CORPORATE SPONSORS:

SABER HEALTHCARE GROUP

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UCP GOLD SPONSORS - \$600 ◆

Brown & Brown of Leigh Valley, LP

Community Bank, NA

DHM Construction Co.

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UCP TEAL SPONSORS- \$250 ◆

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UCP GREEN SPONSORS - \$100 ◆

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The Drob Family

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Representative Marty Flynn

In Memory of Matthew W. Flynn

In Memory of Jim (Gurdy) Gerrity

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Keystone Wood Floors

Stephen Kraemer

Chris, Jayme, Lily & Jane

Tim & Linda McHugh

McHugh McCue Black

Olive Price & Rhodes

Robert Jones, Jr. Construction Co.



66th Annual Meeting AND STAFF APPRECIATION DINNER

On June 13, we celebrated the 66th Annual Meeting and Staff Appreciation Dinner at Cooper's Seafood House. We honored two employees who have been with us for 40 years as well as those employees who have put in 5, 15 and 25 years of service. We also honored two employees who retired.

In addition to our employees, the 2019-2020 Board of Directors was sworn in. We are pleased to announce that Marilyn A. Vitali will serve as president, Robert Jones, Jr. will serve as Vice President, Edward Karpovich will serve as treasurer and Linda Gable will serve as secretary. Barbara Paryka is immediate past president. Congratulations to all.

Staff Anniversaries

40 Years:

KAREN A. HIMCHAK
Director of Residential Services

TIMOTHY McHUGH
Chief Operating Officer

25 Years:

KATHY SLONEKER
Speech Therapist, Children's Services

15 Years:

BETTY DALTON
Residential Program Worker

5 Years:

HELEN JERZOWSKI
Residential Program Worker

DENISE ROSSMAN
Adult Day Program Worker

KATRINA ROUGHSEGE
Special Needs Instructor,
Children's Services

GERARDO SALINAS
Residential Program Worker

Staff Retirees

TERESTA BAEUR
Administrative Assistant
25 Years of Service

SALLY McCULLON
Lekotek Play Specialist
31 Years of Service



2019-2020 Board of Directors. Pictured from L to R, first row are Mary Beth D'Andrea; Marilyn A. Vitali, President; and Robert Jones, Jr., Vice President. Pictured from L to R, second row are Barbara Partyka, Immediate Past President; Anthony Carell; Linda Gable, Secretary; Dr. B. Lynn Hutchings. Absent from the photo: Edward Karpovich, Treasurer; Mark Bennett; John M. Darcy; Dr. Daniel Ginsberg; Lousie Krafjack and Barbara D. Noto.



Sarah A. Drob with UCP of NEPA employees Kathy Sloneker, Timothy McHugh, Denise Rossman and retiree Sally McCullon. Also pictured are Board President Marilyn A. Vitali and Vice President Robert Jones, Jr. (in order from L to R, back row to front row).

While this year has been one of many achievements, we lost two staff members. We extend our sincere sympathies to their families. Both Barb and Joyce are dearly missed at UCP.



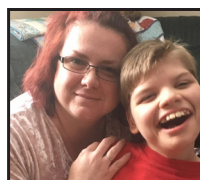
Barbara Siarkiewicz retired from UCP of NEPA in Summer of 2015. Sadly, she passed away last year. Barb was our Coordinator of Communications & Development for 27 years.



In April, Joyce Upton died after her long, hard-fought battle with cancer. Joyce was a supervisor in our Residential Program and worked at UCP of NEPA for many years.



Our new Director of Communications & Development, Rae D. Baldino, was featured in the Scranton Times Tribune's Northeast Woman for her work in the nonprofit field. In August, she was also highlighted in Misericordia University's Alumni Profile Series.



In July, Tanya Frable, PA Elks Nurse, was interviewed by WBRE News about her work in PA Elks Home Services Program through partnership with UCP of NEPA. Tanya has been part of the Home Services team for three years.



UCP of NEPA started off Wednesday, May 29, with a bang-- literally. Our Adult Day Training Program had a special guest, POUND® Pro Instructor Mandy Bair, who held a light exercise workshop to celebrate National Senior Health and Fitness Day.



UCP of NEPA employee Cathy Tremko shared her family recipe for chili sauce with the Scranton Times Tribune and was featured in LOCAL FLAVOR. UCP received a \$50 gift card for Adult Day Program. Cathy has been part of the UCP team for several years.



On March 25, we held our first GO GREEN FOR UCP initiative. March 25 is National CP Awareness Day. Over 30 businesses participated in the event. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020!**



UCP of NEPA received a proclamation on March 7 announcing the month of March as Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month in Lackawanna County from Lackawanna County Commissioners. This was also to help promote a new event in March, GO GREEN FOR UCP.



In January, Misericordia University donated several refurbished personal computers, monitors and keyboards to UCP of NEPA. These computers are being used for Children's Center programming and administrative needs.

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youtube.com



The Free Special Phone Program

is one of many services offered by UCP of NEPA's Assistive Technology Resource Center (ATRC) in partnership with TechOWL. The program aims to assist individuals with disabilities who need adapted phone access.

Heather Taber, Assistive Technology Specialist at UCP of NEPA, is excited the program is expanding. "Now we can offer qualified individuals smartphones through the program. It's exciting," says Taber.

To be eligible for the state funded Free Special Phone Program an individual must:

- be a PA resident with a disability or disabilities that prevent making and/or receiving phone calls independently.
- be six years of age or older.
- have individual gross income of 200% of the federal poverty level or less (low income).
- have current telephone service.
- have the ability to learn how to use the requested device(s).

Sarah A. Drob, CEO of UCP of NEPA, hopes the program expansion will help the local community. "If someone in the community is having trouble using a phone, there may now be a phone with special features that can help them."

To fill out an application and see if you qualify for the Free Special Phone Program, contact the ATRC at UCP of NEPA at 1-877-UCP-TECH or atrc@ucpnepa.org. TTY users, please call (570) 347-3117.

The Free Special Phone Program is implemented by TechOWL, a program of the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University, in conjunction with the PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and the PA Public Utility Commission (PUC). UCP of NEPA is proud to partner with TechOWL and bring our community assistive technology resources.