

Ballerinas Enthrall All at ucpn!

With the Help of a Dedicated Mom, the Ballet Club Gets Established

The Children's Learning Center's (CLC) newest extra-curricular club, the Ballet Club was started last year through the efforts of a concerned mom, Mrs. Marisol Velasquez, along with the caring and dedicated CLC faculty. After a year of hard work by all, the Club held its very first ballet recital on May 21st here at **ucpn**. Everyone who was fortunate enough to experience the recital was truly enthralled by the inspiring ballerinas!

Jimari Velasquez was three years old when she started as a student at the CLC through the Early Intervention program. The smallest child in a set of triplets, Jimari didn't get quite enough oxygen in the womb and was born with significantly under-developed legs. While her siblings grew up running and playing, Jimari crawled and recovered from painful surgery on her hips.

When she first arrived at the CLC, her teachers noticed that she was withdrawn and, in many ways, fearful. Still, they worked patiently with her, ever alert for a way to reach her. Eventually, they discovered that



Dancers from the Children's Learning Center's Ballet Club touched hearts at their first-ever recital at ucpn

Jimari loved dancing. Her mom, Marisol visited many dance schools in the hope that Jimari could participate in lessons but was saddened and shocked when place after place told her that they could not accept Jimari because of her disability! Jimari's sister was participating in dance class and she desperately wanted to go too, but she couldn't walk, let alone dance.

Mrs. Velasquez turned to Jimari's teacher at the time, Lisa Cooper, and her physical therapist, Kelly DiNoia and asked if there was

a way they could offer ballet for Jimari and other students at CLC. Lisa and Kelly were determined to make this work and turned to School Principal, Diane Berger who approved their plan. Lisa and Kelly and other faculty members including CLC teachers and physical therapists, who had backgrounds in ballet, were motivated and determined to create a way for Jimari and other students to dance! These dedicated and caring young professionals created a Ballet Club at the school.

Though reticent at first, Jimari grew to love the ballet club and made huge strides at school as a result. Her teachers report she taught herself to walk with the help of braces and her self-esteem greatly improved. As she progressed, she would often tell her teachers not to help her, opting to balance herself on her walker instead. The Ballet Club has helped her believe in herself and her independence and she has truly blossomed. The sound of her voice, confidently calling out in class, is something that warms hearts everyday. Those

(continued on page 9)

Two ucpn Staffers Recognized

at 20th Anniversary Celebration of JFK Junior's Kennedy Fellows Program

By Patrick Berlinquette

In 1989, John F. Kennedy Jr. endeavored to make a contribution to the developmental disabilities field. In doing so, he learned about the chronic workforce issues that were hindering the efforts of non-profits to provide the best possible care for individuals with disabilities: staff turnover (due to low wages), minimal benefits, poor training, and a lack of career opportunities.

In light of these issues, John started the Kennedy Fellows Program to support the higher education and career advancement of frontline workers employed in health, education and human services agencies; it was his belief that an educated workforce would dismantle the workforce crisis within these agencies, leading to a better quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Kennedy Fellows candidates must be enrolled at either a CUNY or SUNY school and must be taking at least six credits per semester. Once accepted, Kennedy Fellows receive \$1,000 each semester for up to two



Lisa Namias, Pat Quinn, Dee Berger, Evia Miller, Sara Griffith, Caroline Kennedy and Karen Geller-Hittleman at the Kennedy Fellows anniversary celebration at Baruch College in New York City.

semesters for tuition, books, instructional materials, transportation, student fees, child-care, and other expenses associated with higher education. Kennedy Fellows also choose a mentor: usually a college faculty member or agency professional. Mentors serve as role models, career sponsors and academic advisors.

Sara Griffith of the **ucpn** Human Resources Department learned about this

valuable program and worked to bring it to the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County.

More than 800 Fellows from various agencies have been accepted into the Program since its inception, including two bright, exemplary **ucpn** staff: Evia Miller and Lisa Namias.

Evia Miller, Administrative Assistant at **ucpn**'s Oceanside Day-Hab, first became aware of the Program in the Fall of 2008, after she saw an application in **ucpn**'s Human Resources department. Evia was interested, but she was unsure if she would qualify. With encouragement from Sara Griffith, she completed and submitted her application.

Presently, Evia is a fulltime student at SUNY Empire State College where she is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in the Human Service field.

"The Kennedy Fellows Program has allowed me to grow as an individual and meet new people," Evia says. "Being part of such a

(continued on page 8)

12-Day Italian Lakes & Greek Islands Land & Cruise package

to benefit United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.

ucpn proudly announces our 2010 TRIP OF A LIFETIME!
What an amazing way to give back to ucpn!

Join us on July 9th, 2010 for an unforgettable journey to Italy, Greece & Croatia. Your vacation starts off with an overnight flight to Milan, Italy where you will spend 2 nights in Northern Italy's lake region. Experience the picturesque towns of Stresa and Como. Whether you like to shop or sit back and relax with a glass of wine, start your trip off right as our adventure begins. Next you continue on to Venice and board your ship for a spectacular 7-night Eastern Mediterranean Cruise! The Costa Fortuna will be your home during your voyage to such places as Bari, Katakolon, Santorini, Mykonos, Rhodes & Dubrovnik. While onboard, there will be plenty of nightly entertainment, time to relax by the pool, a fitness center at your disposal plus the onboard casino to test your luck.



Other highlights:

- Explore medieval streets, soak in breathtaking views and delve into the mysteries of Greece's ancient past.
- Enjoy a leisurely paced walking tour exploring Venice's historic St. Mark's Square, the Grand Canal and Bridge of Sighs.
- Experience the historic, walled city of Dubrovnik, Croatia. Wine tasting in Stresa!

*PACKAGE INCLUDES: Round-trip air from NY, transfers, hotels in Italy, 7-night Mediterranean cruise, meals per itinerary, sightseeing and tours per the itinerary, all taxes, fuel surcharges & port charges. Estimated twin price, double occupancy: \$4499 per person (Subject to change until paid in full). Proceeds to benefit United Cerebral Palsy Association. Reserve your spot today as reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis. Call Charles Evdos in the Development office at (516) 378-2000 ext. 648.

Please Donate!

I would like to help ucpn continue its mission of helping individuals with disabilities.

Here is my donation of \$ _____

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Signature: _____

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 Attn: Development Dept

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 President, Board of Directors

Robert McGuire
 Executive Director

Karen Kiefel
 President, Council of Auxiliaries

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 Development Director

Patricia Quinn
 Editor

Lois Boyle
 Staff Writer

Mark Your Calendar for These Events:

6th Annual ucpn "Taste & Toast the Town"

Food, Wine & Spirits Tasting

September 16 – Chateau Briand, Carle Place – 6-9 pm

Fashion Fantasy – Council of Auxiliaries

October 7 – Carltun, East Meadow – 6:30 pm

6th Annual Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra Concert

October 11 – Tilles Center, Brookville – 3 pm

57th Annual ucpn Forget-Me-Not Ball

November 7 – The Inn at New Hyde Park – 7 pm

Breakfast with Santa

December 6th – LI Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Uniondale – 9:30 am

Sugar Plum Ball

December 13th – LI Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Uniondale
 4 - 7 pm, only one seating this year

All to Benefit the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (ucpn)
 Call 516-378-2000 ext. 651 to register or for information

The United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.'s

The 57th Annual Forget-Me-Not Ball

November 7, 2009 • The Inn at New Hyde Park

Honoring:



Senator
 Dean Skelos



Assemblyman
 Harvey Weisenberg



Dr. Arthur Risbrook

Black Tie • 7 pm

For reservations, please call 516-378-2000 ext 651

6th Annual Tilles Center Concert

with the Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra

October 11, 2009 • 3:00 pm

Featuring Special Guest, Saturday Night Live's **Joe Piscopo** who will sing some popular big band tunes with the orchestra. Fun music from popular TV hits too!

The ucpn singing group **Creation** will perform.
 All seats are \$30 and proceeds will benefit ucpn

Call 516-378-2000 ext 648 for ticket information



There are a variety of **opportunities** for employment and volunteers at ucpn.

Please contact us at
 Human Resources - 516-377-2100
 Coordinator of Volunteers - 516-377-2062

or visit our website at

www.ucpn.org

ucpn Agency Promotional Video Wins a BOLI Award

Rob Dircks of Dircks Associates was recently honored for the video that he filmed and produced for **ucpn** on a pro-bono basis with a first place award at the 36th Annual Best on Long Island (BOLI) Awards Dinner. The event is sponsored by the Long Island Ad Club, the largest and most celebrated advertising and marketing association on Long Island.

The video won **first place** in the non-profit PSA (public service announcement) category and was up against a piece by Ronald McDonald House and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization among other big names that made it to the finalist category.

Seven hundred of Long Island's best and brightest marketers, representing thousands of companies, educational institutions and non-profit organizations across the region

participate in the BOLI marketing awards program. BOLI is nationally recognized and attracts participation from agencies, corporate marketers and suppliers industry-wide. BOLI statuettes presently reside in 31 states and five foreign countries.



Rob Dircks during filming in a CLC classroom



CLC teacher Lisa Namais and some CLC students with Rob during one of his visits here.

Students Help Bring the Excitement of Wii to Site-Based Day Habilitation at ucpn

A classroom in the Site-Based Day Habilitation program recently benefited from the philanthropic efforts of a school in Seaford. The students at St. William the Abbot School held a raffle earlier this school year. The winner of the raffle went home with a basket of Halloween goodies. Each year, the proceeds of the raffle are donated to a charity or local organization. This year, the students chose to donate the money they raised to **ucpn**. The students proudly raised over \$800. A teacher at the school reported that the students were very motivated to help the program participants after reading about the agency in an issue of the Center Square provided by 8th grade student Megan Russell. Megan is the daughter of Barbara Russell, Mental Health Counselor for **ucpn**.

As a result of their efforts, the Day Habilitation program was able to purchase a new flat screen TV, a TV stand and a Wii system. The use of the Wii system has been helpful in promoting hand-eye coordination and motor skills. In addition, the participants are learning how their actions cause various effects on the screen. Nancy Cordes, Program Coordinator, recently remarked, "I realized how truly wonderful the gift from the chil-



Some of the consumers from Class 416 enjoy bowling on the newly donated Wii system.

dren was when I was in the classroom visiting with the participants. A staff person was working one-to-one with a participant playing one of the Wii games and I have never, in the seven years that I have known this individual, seen her so excited. You begin to see how the things we may take for granted are brand new for some of our participants. Although the children at St. William the Abbot may not realize it, they have made a positive change in the lives of the people we serve." Gisele Smiley, Community Coach notices a change in her participants' level of physical activity as well. "It is nice to see the

participants being so physically active. They really have been enjoying themselves."

On a recent visit to the classroom, a few participants were enthusiastically playing a Wii game. Each individual has his or her favorite. Mark, who stated that fishing is his preferred game, summed up his feelings about the Wii system by saying, "It's fun!" The participants in the program are thrilled with their new items and are extremely grateful to the students at St. William the Abbot for all of their hard work.

Council President's Message



Karen Kiefel (left) and Annamaria Impagliazzo (right)

My term as President of the Council of Auxiliaries is at an end. The past two years have gone quickly and I have enjoyed working with my fellow council board members, our auxiliaries and the Department of Development and would like to thank them all for their help. Even with the challenge of fundraising in our present economy, the Council and Auxiliaries have managed to raise \$300,000 during my time in office. The hard work and effort of the auxiliaries contributed in large part to Council reaching its fundraising goal and for this I would again like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude. Although these funds represent a fraction of the money needed to run our agency, the old adage "every little bit helps" applies. We are very proud of the part we play in keeping the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**) the premier agency catering to developmental disabilities in Nassau County.

I leave the office with some sadness, but as I turn over the reigns of Council leadership to our new President, Karen Kiefel, I am hopeful that the next two years will bring growth in membership, fund raising and public awareness through the efforts of the Council of Auxiliaries, **ucpn**. Congratulations Karen, and good luck in your term of office.

COUNCIL OF AUXILIARIES – CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Merrick AuxiliarySeptember Lottery

For more information: Jay Borofsky (516-378-7196)

Merrick Auxiliary – Holiday Spectacular Raffle (prizes drawn at Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 11th)
Camille Lubeski (516-486-0150)

Plainedge AuxiliarySept. 12thBuddy Baseball

Contact: Rachel Gaudiosi (516-797-4621)Rev. Arthur Mackay Park

Merrick AuxiliarySept. 22ndChinese Dinner

Contact: Camille Lubeski (516-486-0150)

OCTOBER

Plainedge AuxiliaryTBAMembership Luncheon

Contact: Mary Gill (631-842-3890)Katy Daly's

Council of AuxiliariesOct. 7thFashion Fantasy

Contact: Carmela Lage (516-379-5634)The Cartun

Merrick AuxiliaryOct. 14thMembership Luncheon

Contact: Camille Lubeski (516-486-0150)

North Valley StreamOct. 14thMembership Dinner/Fashion Show

Contact: Estelle Quarta (516-825-3304)Inn at New Hyde Park

NOVEMBER

Merrick AuxiliaryNovember Lottery

For more information: Jay Borofsky (516-378-7196)

DECEMBER

Tri-Town AuxiliaryDec. 6thHoliday Dinner/Dance

Contact: Judy Wander (516-328-2495)Stewart Manor Country Club

Merrick AuxiliaryDec. 11thMilleridge Inn Luncheon & Boutique

Contact: Anita Borofsky (516-378-7196) & Roseann LaRossa (516-379-6651)

AUGUST 2010

North Valley Stream AuxiliaryAug. 10 - 22, 2010Cruise to British Isles

Contact: Michelle Greco (516-798-8887) & Barbara Tavella (516-379-6651)

Children's Learning Center



"Swinging Safari," this year's CLC Prom theme was enjoyed by all, teen students as well as teen volunteers.



Jim Ferris and other members of the Scouting Organization join scouts and scout leaders from the CLC at the annual Camporee.



CLC student, Brian Zacarias joins Asst. Principal, Margaret Carlock; CLC Principal, Dee Berger and Art Therapist Laura Buechler at the annual art exhibit with his original art that was chosen for the CP-NYS VISIONS poster



Twin graduates Nicholas and Natalie with their mom as they are interviewed for a segment on LI News Tonight



Brittany Borgen celebrates Grandparents Day at CLC with her grandparents, Bert and Harriet Krebs.



Team CLC participated in the annual Empire State Games for the Physically Challenged.



We Provide the Highest Quality Services to the Children & Adults in Our Agency

ucpn

United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.

Hazel Harris Beloved ucpn Council of Auxiliary Member is Remembered

After retiring from the New York City Department of Social Services, at a time of life when most people plan to take it easy, Hazel Harris returned to working on causes she believed in. She also took the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (ucpn) to her heart. She first volunteered on the Auxiliary level, working diligently on many Uniondale/Plainedge Auxiliary committees and serving as its President for four years. Hazel joined the Council of Auxiliaries Executive Board in 1997, serving in various capacities until relocating to North Carolina in April 2008. Add this to her long list of volunteerism, and new projects she always took on, Hazel was one very busy, energetic lady.



Jessica Jean-Charles talks with the group about the new library equipment donated in memory of Hazel Harris



Bob McGuire (left) and Council's Iris Alessi (right) with Hazel's family members, Warren Harris, Gemma Harris, John Royall, Ella Royall

Her journey, started in July of 1917 in Corona, Queens, spanned 91 years, two marriages, two children, five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She was very involved in her church and community and actively served on many committees and boards and pushed for equality for teachers in the Hempstead schools. Through her membership in the League of Women Voters, Hazel encouraged those in her community to exercise their right to vote. She never tired in the fight to make the world a little bit better.

Hazel passed away in August, 2008 and on April 1st, 2009, the Plainedge Auxiliary, along with Hazel's family and friends, assembled in ucpn's lobby for a memorial ceremony and unveiled a plaque in her honor. A short tour of the agency led by Executive Director, Bob McGuire, ended at the school library where a projector and screen, items taken from the school's wish list and purchased with funds donated in Hazel's memory, were presented to CLC in her name.

Hazel will always be remembered with love by all and will be missed greatly.

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Please Plan on Attending the 6th Annual Taste & Toast the Town

Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting on September 16th to Benefit the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (ucpn)



Judges from the ACFLI will be on hand again this year.

The ucpn's 6th Annual "Taste & Toast the Town" gourmet food and wine tasting extravaganza will take place on September 16th from 6 till 9 pm at the Chateau Briand in Carle Place, NY. Tickets are \$100 in advance and all proceeds benefit ucpn. Registrations can be made online at www.ucpn.org

Guests will enjoy culinary delights and beverages from a myriad of restaurants, bakeries and wine and spirits establishments (see list of participants) while helping to raise significant funds for ucpn.

The Chairpeople of the event, Joe Mandaro and Kathy Wilson, along with their dedicated committee are organizing an evening of fun, food and entertainment to be enjoyed by all. The spectacular Chateau Briand provides a truly elegant atmosphere and comfortable setting for all guests to enjoy their sampling fare throughout the evening.

There will be spectacular raffles to win, including a trip to Aruba and many luxury baskets filled with sought after goodies.

Enjoy live musical entertainment from Mark Buttice and the Swing Easy Band and Johnny Cupples. Distinguished judges for the competition will include members of the American Culinary Federation – Long Island (ACFLI).

Sponsors of the event include Osborne Associates, Northwestern Mutual, Testa Wines, James C. Herrmann & Associates, Louis Koch Insurance and Mutual of America.

The ucpn is very grateful to all the participating food and spirits establishments and to the event sponsors for making this evening so enjoyable. Ninety cents of every dollar raised goes directly to programs and services at the agency that assist close to 2,000 children and adults with disabilities. The ucpn meets all standards of charitable accountability as set by the Better Business Bureau.

For more information contact Charles Evdos at 516-378-2000 ext 648 or at cevdos@ucpn.org



Sweet Karma's spectacular cakes always amaze guests!



Testa Wines is back again as an event Sponsor.



Guests always enjoy this great evening of tasting and helping ucpn!

Participants in the 2009 Taste & Toast the Town Event

Blackstone Steakhouse	.....	Syosset
California Pizza Kitchen	.....	Huntington Station
Chachama Grill	.....	E. Patchogue
Chateau Briand	.....	Carle Place
City Café Supper Club	.....	Garden City
Fox Hollow	.....	Woodbury
George Martin the Original	.....	Rockville Centre
Mim's Restaurant	.....	Roslyn Heights
Mio Posto	.....	Oceanside
Page One	.....	Glen Cove
RS Jones	.....	Merrick
Stresa	.....	Manhasset
Ciao Baby	.....	Massapequa Park
Ayhan's Shish-Kebab	.....	Pt. Washington
RUVU	.....	Pt. Jefferson
Sagamore Steak House	.....	Syosset
Seventh Street Café	.....	Garden City
57 Main Street Imports	.....	Garden City
Atlantic Wine & Spirits	.....	Astoria, Queens
Banfi	.....	Old Brookville
Charmer Industries	.....	Astoria, Queens
Faropian Wines	.....	W. Babylon
Serendipity Tea	.....	Manhasset
Southern Wine & Spirits	.....	Syosset
Stew Leonards	.....	Farmingdale
Supreme Wines	.....	Pleasantville
Testa Wines of the World	.....	Oyster Bay
Fedway Imports	.....	East Meadow
Sidney Frank Imports	.....	New Rochelle
American Classic Ice Cream	.....	Bay Shore
A Taste of Home Bakery	.....	N. Bellmore
Art Flower & Gift Shoppe	.....	Rockville Centre
Cakes by Mona	.....	Levittown
Sweet Karma Desserts	.....	East Meadow
Ivarone Bros.	.....	Wantagh
Front Street Bakery	.....	Rockville Centre
Viking Culinary Institute	.....	Garden City
On the Border Restaurant	.....	Hicksville
Sante Fé Tequila	.....	Hicksville

Art On Display at Kings Supermarket in Garden City

The Kings Supermarket graciously offered the opportunity to display original art done by children and adults who participate in programs at ucpn in its Garden City store for the month of July. The art incorporates a "red, white and blue theme" to tie-in with the July 4th holiday and a spirit of patriotism.

Bob McGuire, ucpn Executive Director, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the management of Kings for their support and the opportunity for ucpn to reach the community of Garden City in this unique way.

Art therapists at the agency, Laura Buechler and Sam Alexander, along with Ilena Koffsky of Adult Day Services and teachers from the Children's Learning Center (CLC) worked with the consumers and students and came up with an inspiring patriotic art exhibit and other unique handmade crafts to display. Posters featuring the CLC Ballet Club in their red, white and blue sailor costumes adorn the register areas where customers were invited to make donations to ucpn.

The Ballet Club is made up of girls ages 4 – 12 who are all challenged by disabilities. They recently held their very first ballet recital and enchanted the entire audience as they twirled and danced in their sparkling costumes, some using walkers or wheelchairs, showing off the results of all their hard work during the previous year.

Framed art was on display in the lovely cafe area, making it feel like a mini-art gallery in the store. Two of the main store windows featured beautiful ceramics handmade by ucpn consumers. All were available for purchase and all proceeds will go to ucpn. Other informational posters were on display and our array of ucpn brochures were there for customers to take.

It was a great opportunity to introduce people in the Garden City community to the good work of ucpn in a warm and friendly way and we are very grateful to Connie Deckel and her staff and to all the management of Kings Supermarkets for this opportunity.



Posters featuring the CLC Ballet Club were on display at all registers.



King's Garden City Store Manager Connie Deckel



Tri-Town Council President Lucille Messina and Marlaina Ibrahim join Connie Deckel during a visit to Kings in Garden City.

7th Annual Dignitary Awards Luncheon Honors Five Individuals



ucpn Presiding Trustee, Ernest T. Bartol, Esq.; Dan Ingstrom representing Legislator David Denenberg; Honorees, William Levine, Anthony Piscitelli, Fran Ferraro, Jack Sullivan and Serge Alahverdian; Fran Pierce, Event Co-Chair and ucpn Executive Director, Bob McGuire.



The CLC Chorus inspired all in attendance



John Ferraro, Karen Kiefel, Fran Ferraro, Patricia and Jerry Poller, Michelle Mondello and Carmela Lage



From ucpn's Life options program, Chris Wawzronek and David Tindale

The Carlton in East Meadow was the setting for the 7th annual ucpn Dignitary Awards Luncheon on April 24th. Close to 200 guests attended to see five great supporters of ucpn honored.

Bob McGuire, ucpn Executive Director served as the Master of Ceremonies and expressed thanks and appreciation to each honoree on behalf of all at ucpn. Two participants from the Life Options program at ucpn who are also members of the singing group Creation spoke during the award presentation to Tony Piscitelli commenting on how much his support of the annual concert with the Nassau Pops Symphony means to the group.

The Children's Learning Center (CLC) Chorus performed at the event. The Chorus is comprised of twenty students ranging in age from 5 to 21 years old and 9 adults including two assistant principals, a lead teacher, lead teacher aides, a music therapist, teacher aides and even a private duty nurse. The guests at the event were thrilled with the performance and offered rousing applause.

The CLC Chorus is celebrating their 10-year anniversary this spring! The chorus also enjoys the distinct honor of performing at each of the two graduation ceremonies held for students graduating from The Children's Learning Center. In 2007, the CLC Chorus paired with Life Option's singing group "Creation" in a concert to present their songs as individual groups and as one large choir!

The chorus is fortunate to be sponsored by the Rosenzweig Insurance Agency in Mineola. The students and faculty of the CLC Chorus were truly honored to provide the entertainment for guests at this year's Dignitary Awards Luncheon.

The following individuals were recognized at the ceremony:

Citizens' Choice Award – Anthony Piscitelli



Anthony J. Piscitelli has served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board for American Defense Systems, Inc. since he founded the company in 2002. ADSI offers advanced solutions in the design, fabrication, and installation of transparent and opaque armor, security doors, windows and curtain wall systems for use by military, law enforcement, homeland defense and corporate customers.

ADSI and Mr. Piscitelli were the sponsors of the 5th Annual Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra Concert to benefit the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. The concert was held at the Tilles Center in Brookville and significant funds were raised to fund programs and services at ucpn. The concert provided a great opportunity to showcase Creation, the wonderful singing group that is made up of talented singers who are participants in the Life Options program at ucpn. The concert also provided an opportunity for ucpn to share information about the good work done at the agency with a large audience of influential Long Islanders.

Mr. Piscitelli's twenty-seven plus years in the physical security industry has provided many memorable assignments and duties, perhaps none more satisfying than protecting the President of the United States during the 2005 Inauguration Ceremony in Washington, D.C. and providing the life-saving Crew Protection Kits for the up-armored fleet of construction vehicles during Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

As a St. John's University graduate, Mr. Piscitelli entered the teaching profession in 1969, taking his Political Science degree to the Social Studies classroom helping provide America's youth with insight and perspective. He earned a Master's degree from City University of New York in 1972 and is currently completing a second Master's degree in Military History from Norwich University.

Mr. Piscitelli is proud to be a benefactor to a number of worthy charitable foundations and professional associations such as the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation, the Wounded Warrior Foundation,

Marine's Memorial Association and St. John's Preparatory School.

Tony is a proud father of two daughters and has four granddaughters. He and his wife Diane reside in Long Beach, New York.

Corporate Leadership Recognition Award – William Levine



President of his synagogue for the past 3 years with various other positions prior to that, Bill has undeniably and tirelessly shown his commitment to community service. On his first visit to ucpn, Bill learned that the agency was about to celebrate its 60th anniversary of assisting individuals with disabilities. His company, WL Concepts, designed a commemorative banner, had it produced and donated a collection of them to adorn the grounds of the ucpn facility. WL Concepts also

took a list of significant dates in the history of ucpn and transformed them into a spectacular timeline display that made its debut on the anniversary celebration day last May. The timeline, also generously donated by WL Concepts, will remain a permanent display in the ucpn breezeway and will be a resource to be enjoyed by all.

Bill started his company, WL Concepts, in 2000. By obtaining guidance through the New York State Department of Labor through SEAP (Self-Employment Assistance Program) and with assistance from a mentor and now friend, former Naval Officer John Narciso, Bill was able to begin his own company.

Since 2000 he has ignited a revolution in on-site branding, graphic displays, and signage. He motivates everyone he meets with his wit, humor and gregarious personality. His client roster reads like a "who's who" in marketing.

By capturing the imagination of some of the world's most successful marketers he has inspired new trends, developed long term relationships which have allowed him to reach phenomenal success and growth with his fairly young company. He is an entrepreneur in every sense of the word. He takes lemons and there will always be lemonade for all to share. His ideas know no limits or bounds. Bill truly loves coming to work every day and making people happy.

Bill, a Merrick resident, is the wonderful husband of Audrey Conti-Levine and a fantastic father to Alissa, Robert and James, and grandfather to two beautiful girls.

Excellence in Community Service Award – Serge Alahverdian



Art and design has always been important for Serge and he has great expertise in these areas. For over 20 years he has shared his time and his creativity with ucpn at various events. The Festival of Trees events have benefited from Serge's artistry for 20 years. He has always made the entrance grand and Santa's workshop spectacular. He has personally decorated dozens of award-winning holiday trees for the Festival and has offered his creative touch with other trees and areas at the event. He has provided creative assistance at the annual Forget-Me-Not Ball and various Council of Auxiliary events.

Serge grew up in the Bronx and graduated from the Fashion Institute of Technology. He worked as a designer of custom-made evening wear, and had many customers. His most well-known client was Connie Francis. Serge also worked as a fabric designer for Disney Studios, had a successful floral business and was the official decorator for the Fortunoff's Christmas Shop for many years. Serge currently works for Garden World as a floral designer and has his own interior design business.

Serge and his family established a Foundation seven years ago called *Summer Hope* that raises funds for research and provides assistance for mothers and children with cancer. These efforts are in honor of Serge's wife, Annie who is now cancer free.



From **ucpn**, Mary Brosky, Margaret Carlock and Diane Berger, and from Rosenzweig Insurance, the sponsors of the CLC Chorus, Alex Rosenzweig and Lynn Derby



Supervisor of the Town of Oyster Bay and **ucpn** Board member, John Venditto, also from the TOB, Brian Vandemeer and **ucpn** Board member, Tony Galano



Joan MacNaughton, Jeanne Mulry, Pat Quinn, Diana Graham and Mayor of Rockville Centre, Mary Bossart



Jack Sullivan and Fran Ferraro with Bob McGuire

Serge has been married for 37 years to Annie and has two sons, two daughters-in-law and four grandchildren. According to Serge, "God blessed me with a talent, I feel I need to share it with others and if I am able to help others, does it get any better? That's why I need to do what I do at **ucpn**."

Shining Star Award – Jack Sullivan



For close to 30 years now, Jack Sullivan's kindness, dedication and fun spirit have graced the halls and hearts of **ucpn**. Jack got involved in helping at **ucpn** in 1984 by befriending a neighbor, George Castiglione, a member of the original group of adult consumers at the agency. George inspired Jack to become a coach for the sports team and to be his coach in the sport of riflery, as he competed in that and other sporting events.

Jack continued to coach the sports team for about four years and traveled with the team and other coaches to a competition at Michigan State University. Jack assisted George and other consumers over the years at **ucpn** events and functions. Jack was a **ucpn** staff member for a year, working as a Residential Manager. In 2005 he was motivated to do more for **ucpn** and, inspired by his friends, the Long Beach Polar Bears, proposed a Polar Bear Plunge for **ucpn**. That "cool" idea met with a warm reception from **ucpn** Executive Director, Bob McGuire and the rest is history! Jack has chaired the event along with Lenny Ferraro since its inception. This year marked the fifth anniversary of this highly successful and enjoyable event that has hundreds of swimmers braving the frigid waters of Oyster Bay while hundreds of spectators cheer them on from the shore of Roosevelt Park!

In December 2008, after the passing of his good friend and co-chair, Lenny Ferraro, Jack requested to take his place as a member of the Small Residence Committee and help continue the good work that Lenny did with this vital group. Jack shares another terrific talent with all at **ucpn** and he comments, "It has been a real thrill for me to come to the center each year and play my bagpipes for the kids and adults on St. Patrick's Day." At **ucpn**, we say, "You make the day grand for everyone here at **ucpn** and we say the thrill is all ours, thank you Jack!"

After serving 2 years in the US Army, Jack was appointed to the Nassau County Police Department in 1968 and retired in 2000. Jack is married to Patricia, a nurse Practitioner. They reside in Long Beach and have 3 great daughters, Kerry, Kate and Kim, along with 4 wonderful grandchildren.

Shining Star Award – Lenny Ferraro – Posthumously



Lenny Ferraro, a true friend to all, passed away suddenly on December 1, 2008.

Lenny provided dedicated and tireless service to **ucpn** for over 25 years as a member of the Board of Directors and through enthusiastic work on numerous vital agency committees. Lenny's cheerful smile was a welcome sight for so many here at **ucpn** including the adult consumers, the students, the families, the staff and the volunteers.

Lenny was known to so many of our friends in government, industry and the community and was so well thought of by these people that they too considered him a friend. Lenny was truly an ambassador for **ucpn**. When he saw a need at **ucpn**, or one was made known to him, he made the call or the visit and the need was met. Whether it was recruiting the C.W.Post Baseball Team to work on the Festival of Trees set-up and breakdown, which was often grueling work, or ask-



Honoree Serge Alahverdian with his family and friends



Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Piscatelli



Lou Panacciulli and **ucpn** Development Director, Charles Evidos



Judge Raymond Harrington and Ernest Bartol, Esq.



ucpn Ball Committee members Tony Galano and Virginia Bavaro

ing the Jericho Cider Mill to provide cider and pie for a Children's Learning Center fundraiser, people were always glad to oblige when Lenny asked. His friendship with the Silverlake Cookie Company resulted in the donation of thousands and thousands of cookies over the years. The **ucpn** probably received over \$100,000 worth of unique cookies, donated simply because Lenny asked his friend Rocco at Silverlake to help **ucpn**. Who would get up at 4 am to volunteer as a "starter" at the **ucpn** annual golf tournament and then be selling raffle tickets that same evening at 7 pm? That would be Lenny, the same guy who carried hundreds of pounds of holiday lights and decorations for the annual Festival of Trees and the one who did not hesitate to jump in the frigid waters of Oyster Bay at 79 years old to raise funds for the agency that was so dear to his heart.

Lenny was introduced to **ucpn** when his brother-in-law, Anthony Trotta participated in the **ucpn** Adult Day Treatment Program and then moved into the Bayview Nursing Home. Lenny advocated for Anthony as well as his fellow residents, always striving to make things better for everyone. Lenny knew just about all at Bayview by name – the residents, the nurses, the therapists, the doctors, the aides, the cafeteria workers, the laundry staff and the fellow family members. He truly cared about people and always took the time to get to know something about everyone he met.

Lenny was the Chairperson of the **ucpn** Residential Committee and made a point of visiting the various residences and getting to know the individuals who lived there and the staff. Even after his brother-in-law passed away, Lenny remained committed to working on this vital arm of the agency. He was a member of the **ucpn** Heritage Society, a group helping to build the agency's endowment.

Personally generous with his own time and finances, Lenny encouraged others to get involved in the support of **ucpn** with monetary contributions as well as time. He always attended the **ucpn** benefit concert at the Tilles Center, he came to the CLC Prom, he was a great fan of the Nassau Thunderbolts Sports Team and would not miss their Pastabilities fundraiser and he always helped at the **ucpn** staff holiday party. Along with his pal, Jack Sullivan, he co-chaired the annual Polar Bear Plunge from its start in 2005. The event has grown each year and has raised significant funds and new friends for the agency. The 2009 Polar Bear Plunge and all to follow are now dedicated in honor and memory of Lenny Ferraro.

Lenny, a Massapequa resident, served in the Navy and retired from the New York City Police Department. His wife Fran and her son John are great supporters of **ucpn** and his daughter Lisa, son Jeff and grandkids took the plunge at the recent Polar Bear event in Lenny's honor.

Corporate Values Supports ucpn

Corporate Values, a promotional products and corporate gift distributor, has been wonderful with their assistance in helping the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**)

Woody Kaye started Corporate Values in 1999 as the founder and President. He has been a long-time supporter of **ucpn** along with Anne MacInnis and Felicia Maley. This solid sales support team has been a tremendous help assisting **ucpn** with unique incentives for *The Trivia Challenge* event.

For our September 16th *Taste & Toast the Town* event, Corporate Values generously offered to donate the goodie bags that we give out to 400 guests at the event.

Woody, Anne, and Felicia have been so helpful and we are grateful to work with them.

We at **ucpn** couldn't be happier with the dedication, time and support that Corporate Values has provided and continues to provide to **ucpn**. Corporate Values is located at 99 Powerhouse Road, Roslyn Heights, New York 11577. For more information: telephone 516-626-7400; fax 516-626-5195; or e-mail woody@corporatevalues.com.



From Left to Right: Felicia Maley, Anne MacInnis, and Woody Kaye from Corporate Values

UCP Bayville Celebrates 25th Anniversary

UCP Bayville recently celebrated 25 years of providing quality services and a happy, welcoming environment for the individuals with cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities who reside there. Bayville hosted a BBQ on July 11 to commemorate the anniversary. Many people who used to reside at Bayville, along with their family members, attended. Residents discussed their fond memories and how Bayville prepared them for living more independently in their new homes. Staff from throughout the agency, including **ucpn** Executive Director, Bob McGuire and Karen Geller-Hittleman, **ucpn** Assistant Executive Director, were there to join in the festivities and camaraderie. The day was full of fun, music, laughter, and good food! The excellent food was prepared by the staff of Sodexho who have provided the residents of Bayville with delicious meals over the years. Everyone was given a commemorative anniversary T-shirt, compliments of Sodexho. Special thanks to Art Mesiti, District Manager of Sodexho, for his support and to all

at Sodexho for their caring and generosity.

As the T-shirt states, "UCP Bayville is a great place to live and work," and is certain to remain so for the next 25 years and beyond!



Assemblyman Harvey Weisenberg and his wife Ellen with Bayville staff including Sonia Knight, Arios Eugene, Paul Lowry and Cynthia Wallace in Albany.



Bayville resident Scotty Hughes is joined by his parents, his sister and nieces and nephew at the celebration

Two ucpn Staffers Recognized at 20th Anniversary Celebration

(continued from page 1)

great program only makes me want to give back to others. While working and going to school full-time can be overwhelming on occasion, it is good to know that I have a group of people at **ucpn** that are interested in my well-being. In my life, I have overcome some hurdles; others will also face some of these challenges and I would like to be there to help them achieve their goals. Education and determination are all you need to stay focused on your dream."

Lisa Namias, a teacher at the Children's Learning Center, became involved in the Kennedy Fellows Program in December 2008. She now attends Queens College CUNY, where she is pursuing a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education.

"I am very happy to be a part of The Kennedy Fellows Program," Lisa says. "The Program has given me the opportunity to choose a mentor, CLC School Principal, Diane Berger, to help me through my schooling process and help me achieve my goals. I have learned through this program that if you set your mind to something, you will achieve it. The connections I have made with all of the staff are wonderful; they are always there to help you in any way. As the Kennedy Fellows Program's saying goes: 'Once a Fellow always a Fellow.'"

On June 2nd, 2009, over one hundred attendees joined guest of honor, Caroline Kennedy at Baruch College to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Kennedy Fellows Program. Lisa and Evia, along with other Fellows, were congratulated for their success and for carrying on John F. Kennedy Jr.'s vision into the future. Diane Berger, Principal of The Children's Learning Center and **ucpn** Assistant Executive Director, Karen Geller-Hittleman served as mentors in the program and attended the ceremony along with Sara Griffith and Pat Quinn from the **ucpn** Development Department.

SELL YOUR GOLD

Receive Payment on the Spot from Page & Co. Jewelers and Help Raise Funds for ucpn

Tuesday, Oct. 6th at ucpn, 380 Washington Avenue, Roosevelt in Room 211B from 4-7pm

Reservations required. Call for details: 516-378-2000 x 651

2010

25th Anniversary of the
ucpn
Trivia Challenge

ATTENTION TEACHERS & STUDENTS

Come join the growing number of schools that support United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. and participate in our *Trivia Challenge Event!* Trivia Challenge is a fun, academic event for students in grades 3-12

Contact Michelle Gevirtz at 516-378-2000 ext 352 or at mgevirtz@ucpn.org

We are grateful to the past participants of Trivia Challenge:

Alden Terrace Elementary School	Lawrence Middle School
Baldwin High School	Locust Valley Intermediate School
Baldwin Middle School	Long Beach LARC
Bayville Intermediate Elementary School	Manhasset High School
Bethpage High School	Manhasset Middle School
Cantiague Elementary School	Maurice W. Downing Elementary School
Carle Place High School	Munsey Park Elementary School
Carle Place Middle School	North Shore High School
Covert Avenue School	Polk Street School
Centre Avenue School – Enterprise Program	Sanford H. Galhoun High School
Floral Park Memorial High School	Seaford High School
Gardiners Avenue School	Schreiber High School
Great Neck South Middle School	Sewanhaka High School
HAFTR High School	Shore Road School
Hewlett Elementary School	Saint Agnes Cathedral School
Howitt Middle School	Saint Aidan School
Island Trees Middle School	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School
Jonas E. Salk Middle School	Wantagh Middle School
LaSalle Regional School	Weber Middle School
Lawrence High School	Woodland Middle School

Ballet Recital (continued from page 1)



of us who have gone through surgery and rehabilitation know how difficult it can be. At age three, Jimari has been through surgery twice. Who knows what the future holds for her? We think a lot of happiness and great things!

Every day, Jimari finds a way to strive for more, make her friends, teachers and therapists smile and inspire everyone she encounters in the process.

The Ballet Club members participate at their own ability level and the activities are adapted based on each girl's abilities and needs. Dancers can choose to utilize their assistive devices as necessary. The girls engage in stretching, strengthening, balance, disassociation, and coordination activities. The exercises at practice sessions are designed to make the student's muscles stronger and more flexible while improving core strength and flexibility. Classes also have the potential to increase the students' ability to remain on task and follow multi-step gross motor directions. Currently, all classes are taught by a licensed physical therapist with experience in teaching dance to children with special needs. A "helper" or a "ballerina buddy" accompa-



Celebrating Nurses at ucpn

Nursing care at **ucpn** is a reflection of nursing care as a whole: many roles and diversity, but with a single mission to deliver knowledgeable and timely care compassionately.

Nursing is a calling and a service profession. To be a nurse at **ucpn** is to be at the service of many, and for the good of us all. The reach and impact that our nurses have goes beyond the moment that care is being rendered, it extends to others and throughout the day. Medical Director James McBrien (in photo with nursing staff) comments with pride, "I can attest to the high quality of care delivered to our consumers and staff. I want to congratulate all of our nurses who work in all of our settings in various roles for their consistent efforts and professionalism."

The **ucpn** Nursing staff contributes significantly to the welfare and mission of **ucpn** and all at **ucpn** are very thankful.



Front row—Cynthia Lambert LPN., Charity Barao LPN., Terry DeMarta LPN., Kathy Zupich LPN., Rachelle Henry RN., Back row—Lisa Ferrara RN., Rachel Diaz RN., Janet Reilly LPN., Josephine Rumman RN., Eileen Dahlen LPN., Dr. James McBrien MD.

nies each student in the class. These helpers are all volunteer staff members of **ucpn** and include teachers, therapists and social workers. Through all the one-to-one time spent together, the buddies come to know their young partner's physical needs and how to best assist them.

According to Ballet Club Moderator Kelly DiNoia, "If volunteering during my lunch period two days a week is what it takes to make the Ballet Club possible for these young students, then that is a small price to pay for making a little girl's dream come true."

Since the Club's very beginning, each ballerina has her own pair of ballet slippers, to be worn with or without braces, depending on their individual needs. Each dancer received a tiara, a wand, and a tutu, which they enjoy wearing at practices.

Tricia Anderson, mom of one of the ballerinas said that she chose the Children's Learning Center for her daughter Emma because of special programs like this. Mrs. Anderson's smile was bright as she went on to comment, "Emma thoroughly enjoys her ballet and has progressed so much. She is not just doing this without purpose – she truly has plans to become a princess ballerina!"

Director's Message

(con't from page 12)

been received. While this is a great start, it is only the beginning. The future of Medicaid and Medicare is unknown but you can be sure that changes are on the horizon. We have two obligations as I see it. First, let your local state and national representatives know you are interested in the well-being of children and adults with disabilities and that you expect them to support initiatives, regulations and laws that will provide properly for them. Secondly, join me in making **ucpn** more independent of the vagaries of the economy and build our endowment. In this way, we will be able to maintain programs and services when economic downturns occur. We know that when the economy rebounds this time, a downturn is in the future. It is my promise to you, that for the remainder of my career, I will spend a great deal of my time working to ensure the financial future of **ucpn**. I need your help to be successful.

6 Ways to Save Taxes While Supporting ucpn

The end of the year is an ideal time to take stock of your financial situation and decide which assets are best to use in making charitable gifts to your favorite organizations. Fortunately, because the tax laws are favorable, there are many options open to you, some of which can fit in very nicely with your overall financial objectives and actually enhance your – or your family’s – financial security.

Among the choices you have are:

1-Donate "Cash"

The easiest kind of gift to make, a gift made by check or credit card provides funds that can be put to immediate productive use, and is subject to the most liberal tax rules. You can deduct cash gifts up to 50% of your adjusted gross income, and unused deductions may be carried forward for up to five additional tax years.

2-Contribute Securities That Have Risen in Value

Making a gift of appreciated securities that you have owned for more than 12 months can be very advantageous. You avoid all capital gains taxes, and can take a tax deduction for the securities' full market value rather than just your original cost. Gifts of appreciated securities are deductible up to a limit of 30% of your adjusted gross income, with a five-year carry-over period.

3-Make a Gift of Life Insurance

If you own a life insurance policy that you no longer need for the purpose you originally acquired it, making a gift to UCP Nassau (ucpn) of the policy is easy and beneficial. Generally, you can deduct the entire replacement value of an existing policy, plus any premium payments that you subsequently make. If the policy isn't completely paid up, you can usually deduct an amount that is approximately equal to its cash value, plus any future premium payments.

4-Use a Retirement Account to Make a Future Gift

Because retirement plan assets are among the most heavily taxed, family members may receive only a very small portion of their value through inheritance – sometimes as little as 15 or 20 percent. By earmarking retirement assets for a charity such as ucpn, and leaving cash bequests to family members, you can preserve more of your estate for your heirs.

5-Designate a Bank Account for ucpn

By signing a simple form at the bank, you can designate ucpn as beneficiary of a Certificate of Deposit or checking or savings account, and use the account to conduct your normal banking business. You own and have full control of the account at all times, and any balance in the account at the time of your death will automatically go to ucpn.

6-Give a Gift That Can Pay You (or Loved Ones) an Income

In exchange for a contribution of cash, appreciated securities, real estate, and certain other property, you – or anyone you select – can receive a lifetime income. You'll earn a significant income tax deduction from these IRS-approved gift arrangements, while assuring important long-range support for ucpn.

If you have an interest in exploring the options open to you in making a tax-planned charitable gift, contact Charles Evdos at (516) 378-2000, ext. 648.

ucpn Wish List

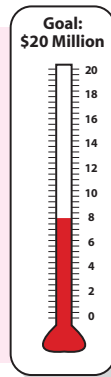


Building Campaign to Expand Classrooms	.....\$ 625,000
Leisure Services Program	.....\$ 225,000
Fiber Optic Evaluation Equipment	.....\$ 41,000
1 Wheelchair Accessible Van for Children	.....\$ 36,000
Pet Therapy	.....\$ 26,000
20 New Computers with Printers	.....\$ 20,000
Body Pressure Mapping System	.....\$ 12,000
Math Curriculum	.....\$ 9,000
OT Ice-Pack Machines, Fluid Therapy, Ultrasound	.....\$ 5,000
Augmentative Communication Device	.....\$ 5,000
Electric Combination Tilt Table	.....\$ 4,100
Tablet Computer with infra-red joystick	.....\$ 3,000
Assorted Trees & Shrubs	.....\$ 1,500
Computer Software & Printer – Com. Based Day Hab	.....\$ 1,500
Word Plus w/ Destalk Synthesizer	.....\$ 1,500
Automatic Page Turner	.....\$ 1,100
Special Education Learning Software	.....\$ 1,000
Therapeutic Toys	.....\$ 1,000
Pocket Viewer Magnifier	.....\$ 1,000
Sponsor Athlete for National Competition	.....\$ 1,000
Self Feeding Device	.....\$ 900
Zoom Text and Screen Reader for Windows XP	.....\$ 700
Missing Link Block Set	.....\$ 700
Communication for Visually Impaired	.....\$ 600
One Augmentative Communication Device	.....\$ 500
4 Patio Sets (each)	.....\$ 500
Sponsor a Leisure Services Trip for 10 Individuals	.....\$ 500
Sponsor 1 Individual for One Year of Bowling	.....\$ 450
2 Snow Blowers (each)	.....\$ 400
Boccia Balls Set	.....\$ 375
Activity Supplies for Two Events for our Children and Adults	.....\$ 300
2 Lawn Mowers (each)	.....\$ 300
Purchase New Set of Books for our Classrooms	.....\$ 200
Craft Supplies	.....\$ 100
8 Food Processors (each)	.....\$ 100

If you want to make a wish come true, please contact Charles Evdos, ucpn Development Director at (516) 378-2000 ext. 648

ucpn Endowment Fund

We are proud to report that we are currently at \$8 million and working our way towards the goal of \$20 million in 2015



By the time you read this, summer will have ended. Some of you who volunteer will have gone back to school and others will be here, whether on a daily basis, weekly, or whenever you have some spare hours to donate.

National Volunteer Recognition week in April went smoothly – volunteers enjoyed some refreshments and played “Volunteer Bingo” as they were recognized for all that they do to contribute to ucpn through their time and dedication.

We hope that you spread the word about attending ucpn’s 6th annual *Taste & Toast the Town* fundraiser on September 16, which promises to be filled with food and fun. The Fall events are just around the corner, and I sincerely want you to take a moment to reflect on how many lives you touch by being part of ucpn’s mission.

As I transition into another place and leave ucpn after seven years, I want to thank each and every of one you for making it a privilege to work alongside you – whether it was at one of the events or at the agency – I hope you know how much you’re valued, how many hearts you warm by your presence, and how much it meant for me to be a part of all of your lives. I will miss you all.

Volunteer's Corner

By Elizabeth Katz
Coordinator of Volunteers



Elizabeth Katz (left) joins volunteers and administrators at the Volunteer Week celebration at ucpn.

ucpn's Annual Meeting Held in June

At the annual association meeting, many staff members were honored for years of service. Twenty staff were honored for 10 years, thirteen for 15 years, nine for 20 year, five for 25 years and three for 30 years of dedicated service to the agency! Close to 70 individuals were honored as part of the "Victory 100" group – people who have volunteered 100 or more hours of service. All clear testament to the goodness and caring of the people associated with **ucpn**.

For the first time, consumers from the various programs at **ucpn** were also honored for their contribution to the agency.

Ms. Patricia Wong - 2009 ucpn Achievement Award for Leadership as a Student in the Children's Learning Center



Patricia Wong with her mom and CLC Principal, Diane Berger and ucpn Executive Director, Bob McGuire.

Patricia Wong, whose nickname is Chi Chi, is an extraordinary young woman and an exemplary student in the Children's Learning Center. She was recommended to receive the **ucpn** Achievement Award in Leadership by a number of CLC faculty members including clinicians from various disciplines and CLC administrators. Everyone noted Patricia's leadership qualities. Patricia has shown herself to be dedicated to learning and she has taken

advantage of the numerous programs that CLC has to offer. She is also known for her desire to assist the other students in our school program. She is a coach of the CLC Ballet Club and is a captain on the CLC Dance Team. Patricia recently helped give an award at the school's first ballet recital. She is an active member of the CLC Chorus and serves as a great role model. She volunteers to read to younger students and during language lessons, has stepped in to assist her classmates to better understand the concepts being taught. Patricia has also taken a lead role in sharing her thoughts during classroom problem solving sessions, offering a mature and non-judgmental view about issues facing teenagers. Patricia is always pleasant, respectful, and polite to those around her. She gave a wonderful speech to a large and distinguished audience during **ucpn's** 60th anniversary celebration. Her speech was full of celebration, gratitude, and a joy and appreciation for our school, our agency and the people in her life. It came from the heart and rang true. Patricia is an individual who has shown maturity and leadership that goes far beyond her years.

Mr. Robert Lares - 2009 ucpn Achievement Award for Congeniality Representing Residential Services



Bobby Lares surrounded by Bob McGuire; Residence Mgr, Nicola Senior; Asst. Manager, Lawrence Miner; Program Supervisor, Lisa Reyes and his sister and niece.

Robert Lares, also known as Bobby, is a friendly, kind hearted and fun loving individual with a special enthusiasm for life. Bobby has lived at home, at Woodmere Health Facility, Bayview Nursing Facility and now resides at **ucpn's** Abbey Lane IRA. Bobby told his friends that moving into the Abbey Lane Residence is like

crossing over the rainbow. He loves living in his home and enjoys the bond he has with all 5 of his roommates. Bobby has a passion and motivation for life and all that it has to offer. Among Bobby's many life accomplishments is graduating from SUNY Old Westbury with a B.A degree in Sociology. In his spare time, Bobby enjoys educating the public about people with disabilities. Bobby's other interests and favorite activities include going to the mall, eating out at his favorite restaurants and working his shift at the Snack Shack at **ucpn**. Bobby is a big sports fan and spends a lot of his free time watching sports on TV or listening to sports on the radio. Bobby is a people-person and is such a pleasure to be around. He appreciates everything you do for him. To the staff at his home Bobby is known as "Mr. Congeniality" because he has inspired all with his positive and upbeat attitude. Executive Director Bob McGuire commented "if you look up the word CONGENIALITY in the dictionary, it will say "Bobby Lares."



ucpn Board member, Judge Anthony Parga, Bob McGuire, ucpn Presiding Trustee, Ernest T. Bartol, Esq., Judge Stephen Bucaria



Members of the Victory 100, individuals who have generously volunteered 100 or more hours at ucpn, gather at the Annual Meeting.

Ms. Isabelle Catania - 2009 ucpn Achievement Award for Art representing the Bayville Residence



Isabella Catania

Isabelle has resided at UCP Bayville since it opened in 1984. She is a long-standing member of **ucpn** through her participation in the work center, Club 380 and now Life Options, where she harnessed her creative energy into making the beautiful cards that contributed to her selection as the recipient of this award.

To show her appreciation to staff for all of their assistance, Isabelle began making cards on special occasions, or just because. It is a beautiful and meaningful way to show how much she values people who are important to her.

When not working on her art projects, Isabelle is an avid collector of memorabilia related to the Royal family, particularly Princess Diana. Princess Diana was always helping people and is Isabelle's inspiration for wanting to do nice things for others. Like many people in all walks of life, Isabelle has long had "White Coat Syndrome." Over the past couple of years, Isabelle has worked hard to overcome her fears. With the support of staff, she has successfully attended necessary medical appointments. We are proud to say that Isabelle has not missed an appointment in months. All at **ucpn** are happy to see Isabelle receive recognition for all of her efforts, talents, and kindness to others.

Mr. Howie Cohen - 2009 ucpn Achievement Award in the category of Sports Representing the Adult Programs



Howie Cohen with Bob McGuire and ucpn Director of Adult Programs, Sharon Rothstein

Howie Cohen joined the **ucpn** family in 1981 when he began attendance in the Adult Day Treatment Program's College Program. It was at that time that he began his academic journey. Through hard work, dedication and perseverance, Howie obtained an Associates Degree from Nassau Community College and then a Bachelors Degree in Philosophy from SUNY Old Westbury. Howie made such a good impression on his professors that he was asked by some of them to assist with special projects

and they relied on his knowledge while teaching their classes.

We are fortunate to be able to reap the benefits of Howie's knowledge and expertise, as he is currently a Teaching Assistant in our Life Options Program. Howie is very passionate about the subject he teaches and has been able to encourage the participants' interest by asking motivating questions for them to contemplate. He takes his job very seriously and is certainly an asset to the Life Options program.

When joining the **ucpn** family, in addition to his road to academia, Howie pursued his interest in sports and was one of the founders of the **ucpn** competitive sports team, the Thunderbolts. As one of the founders, Howie helped name the team, develop the logo and guide the team through its many transitions of individual and team competition over the years. Some of his personal accomplishments include being chosen to compete with Team USA in 2005 at the Canadian Worlds and being a part of the Gold and Silver medal team winners at national competitions. His coaches describe him as loyal and dedicated not only to himself achieving greatness competitively but also to his fellow teammates and Team USA at large.

In recognizing all of Howie's accomplishments, and particularly his excellence in the field of competitive sports, we are delighted to be honoring him with the first annual **ucpn** achievement award in the category of sports.

Director's Message



Robert McGuire
Executive Director

During the Spring and into the early Summer, I held numerous meetings with staff, families and adult consumers to discuss many matters that were immediately impacting the Agency and others that would be influential in the months and perhaps, years in front of us.

The recent efforts of our families, volunteers, staff, consumers and other advocates have helped stave off cuts to the ICF program and threats to the funding of the day habilitation programs. These outcomes clearly are evidence of the power of emails, phone calls and face-to-face visits to our representatives in Albany. You should all be congratulated for your vigilance and responsiveness. Unfortunately, we were unable to influence the Governor to include a trend in the budget (this is a cost of living increase to the OMRDD programs and it is this money that largely enables agencies to provide raises and keep up with increased expenses). We subsequently lost another battle when the MTA bailout was passed and agencies like ours were included among those required to pay. This will cost **ucpn** approximately \$100,000 per annum to support this initiative, without any offsetting reimbursement. While we accept that there is a need for the sharing of the economic stress, there should be real concern that a disproportionate amount is attributed to not-for-profit agencies that have little to no alternatives to pricing restrictions.

Having said this, there are several initiatives we are examining and some that have already begun implementation that we anticipate bearing fruit. Our Planned Giving effort is one of these initiatives that has significant importance for our present fiscal health and is an absolute necessity for a future ability to meet the needs of our children and adults. In all of my meetings, I have asked the audience to join me in these efforts to build a robust endowment that can help ensure the future. How can you help? Well, should you have the means and desire, I'd like to speak with you about how you can give money to the organization now, or arrange to purchase an annuity, or establish a gift through wills or



United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.
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Roosevelt, New York 11575

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Please help **ucpn** go green
and have your newsletter and other info sent via email.

Send a note to info@ucpn.org with your email address and a request to make this change. Include your actual address and phone number please. THANKS for your help.

Join us
September 16th for
**Taste & Toast
the Town**

bequests. If you are not in a position to take action at this time, but are aware of individuals or corporations that would like to help us build our endowment, I'd like to speak with you about an introduction.

Our Foundation Board identified the establishment of an endowment as its #1 priority almost four years ago. They created a goal of ten million dollars in five years and twenty million dollars in ten years. We are well on the way to reaching these goals as we have 8.1 million dollars designated or earmarked for our endowment of which \$400,000 has already

(continued on page 9)

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Active System
Care Kit**

- Fast, flexible testing.
- Results in just 5 seconds.
- 22 depth setting, 200-value memory with time, date and 7- and 14-day result averaging.

BIO3184501 **MSRP \$49.50**

\$18⁹⁹ **26" Multi-pik Reacher**



- Head rotates and locks
- Resists rust and cleans easily

ISG594MPR **MSRP \$99.00**



\$21³⁸ **Accu-Check
Soft Touch
Lancet Device**

5 settings for adjustable penetration, ensuring an accurate sample and increased comfort.

BIO00580 **MSRP \$45.60**



\$649⁰⁰ **Monarch Value Series
Lift Chair**

- Three position, full recline and lift chair.
- Unique lifting mechanism, effortlessly takes user from fully reclining to standing position. Weight capacity: 375lbs.

GTCP355M **MSRP \$988.00** Various colors available. Call in Order ONLY.



\$32⁸⁰

**Standard Aerobic
Pedal Exerciser**

Great for cardiovascular fitness

- Chrome plated steel construction
- Plastic pedals with nylon straps
- Fully assembled

ISG8150 **MSRP \$70.65**



\$49⁹⁹ **Blood Pressure Monitor
With Automatic
Inflation**

- Provides accurate readings
- Large digital display
- Hold up 90 Memory Readings
- Fits arms size 9"-13"
- Lifetime Guarantee

ISG4002654 **MSRP \$92.40**



\$29⁹⁹ **Digital Ear Thermometer**

- One second readings
- Stores 10 readings
- Fever alarm
- Note-Glo™ Display
- 5 Year warranty

Includes one lithium battery, zippered storage case, and guidebook **MSRP \$59.99**

ISG4052845



\$59⁰⁰ **Talking Electronic
Scale**

- English, Spanish, and French
- Readout is accurate to 300 lbs
- Includes batteries
- Lifetime Warranty

HOM708040175 **MSRP \$114.00**

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