

## United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. Celebrating 60 Years of Assisting Individuals with Disabilities

Since 1948, the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**) has been assisting people with disabilities. Over these six decades of service, countless individuals have benefited from the programs and services offered by our agency. Children and adults have had the opportunity to travel the road from “disability to capability” and make strides towards their goals with the help of skilled and dedicated staff members and volunteers at **ucpn**. The families of these individuals have also benefited from the assistance and guidance provided by caring and knowledgeable staff members at **ucpn**. The advocacy efforts of consumers as well as staff and board members have advanced the cause of individuals with disabilities, and while there is still work to be done, right now in 2008, laws and regulations in place guarantee rights and entitlements that protect



Richard Mondello working hard in the **ucpn** Accounting Department.



In this photo from Newsday, March 19, 1963, the caption read, "Children from the CP Center in Roosevelt enjoy refreshments with Mrs. Eugene Nickerson of Roslyn Harbor, wife of the Nassau County Executive, after entertaining guests at the Nassau CP Council Tea in the Garden City Hotel." Richard Mondello is the young man in the center of the photo.

and insure the dignity and liberties of individuals who are challenged by a disability.

On May 9th, the agency will host a grand celebration here at our headquarters building, and all are welcome. More details will be available on the **ucpn** website at [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org).

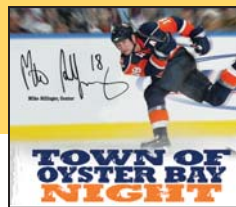
Richard is now on staff at **ucpn** and is a valued member of the Accounting Department. Richard met his wife Michelle here at **ucpn** while they were both students in the kindergarten class of 1963. Michelle is also a dedicated **ucpn** staff member and works in the Children's Learning Center (CLC) library.



Michelle Mondello meets with Nancy Pederson from the Life Options program at **ucpn**. In addition to being a program participant, Nancy is a teaching assistant and reads to students from the CLC on a regular basis. Former CLC classmates themselves, Michelle and Nancy discuss what books they think the young students would enjoy at their next session.

### "Town of Oyster Bay Night" at the Islanders Game Results in Very Generous Donation for **ucpn**

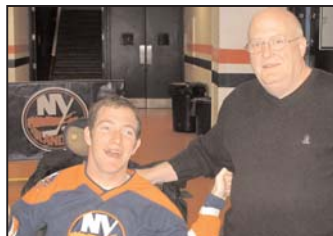
At the "Town of Oyster Bay Night" held at the Islander game on December 1st, a portion of the ticket sales totalling \$22,000 was donated to the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**). The **ucpn** is truly so very grateful to Supervisor John Venditto and the people of the Town of Oyster Bay for designating **ucpn** as their charity and the Islanders organization for this very generous donation. Special thanks to all the people from the Town of Oyster Bay who came out to support the Islanders and **ucpn**!



Lenny Ferraro, **ucpn** Board member joins Bob McGuire and Doug Masterson in expressing their thanks to Supervisor John Venditto for making this special evening possible.



Bob McGuire, **ucpn** Executive Director; Bob Masterson, President of the **ucpn** Board of Directors and his son Doug Masterson; Charlie Fleish, Captain of the Nassau Thunderbolts Sports team at **ucpn** and Pat Quinn, Community Outreach at **ucpn** accept the donation check at a pre-game presentation from Islander's Right Wing, Richard Park.



Doug Masterson got to celebrate his birthday at the game with his dad Bob!

### **ucpn** Team 60 Needs You!



If you are a runner interested in participating in the LI Half Marathon on May 4th we need you! Bob McGuire, **ucpn** Executive Director is turning 60 and so is the agency. In honor of these milestones, we are inviting 60 runners to form a team that will help raise \$60,000 for **ucpn**. If you want get involved in this unique way of celebrating **ucpn** and want to run and/or sponsor a runner on the team, call 516-378-2000 ext 355. We look forward to hearing from you!



**Keep 'Em Laughing** – Life Options program participant, Jimmy Delvecchio is all smiles upon exiting his English class entitled, "Era of Comedy." The class discussion was lively and enjoyable and according to instructor, Tom O'Connor, Jimmy is one of many students who are always cheerful and full of enthusiasm during their sessions together. (Jimmy was also quite happy about his team's victory in the recent Super Bowl!)



**ucpn**  
The United Cerebral Palsy Association  
of Nassau County, Inc.

**Celebrating sixty years  
of assisting  
individuals  
with disabilities**

SAVE THE DATE FOR A GRAND CELEBRATION:

**May 9, 2008**

Mark your calendar and plan to join us at  
380 Washington Avenue Roosevelt, NY

## Please Donate!

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

Here is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge to my credit card

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail to: **ucpn**, 380 Washington Avenue, Roosevelt, NY 11575  
Attn: Development Dept

CS 3-08

## Mark Your Calendar for These Events:

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

### Trivia Challenge Finals

Feb 25-28 – Karp Siegel Gym, **ucpn**

### 4th Annual ucpn Polar Bear: Break the Ice Swim

March 9 – Theodore Roosevelt Park, Oyster Bay

### 6th Annual ucpn Dignitary Awards Luncheon

April 11 – Garden City Hotel, Garden City

### 26th Annual ucpn Golf and Tennis Tournament

August 7 – North Hills Country Club

### 5th Annual ucpn "Toast of the Town"

September 24 – Food, Wine & Spirits Tasting – Chateau Briand, Carle Place

### Fashion Fantasy 2008 – Council of Auxiliaries

October 7 – Crest Hollow Country Club

### 56th Annual ucpn Forget-Me-Not Ball

November 1 – Chateau Briand, Carle Place

### Teddy Bear Tea Party

November 8, 11am – Long Island Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

### 20th Annual Long Island Festival of Trees

November 28, 29 & 30 - Long Island Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

### Breakfast with Santa

December 7, 9:30 am – Long Island Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

### A Knight to Remember

December 7, 4:30pm – Long Island Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

### Sugar Plum Ball

December 14, 12pm & 5pm – Long Island Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

The 6th Annual **ucpn**

## Dignitary Awards Luncheon

April 11, 2008 • Garden City Hotel

For information or reservations  
call 516-378-2000 ext 648

## ucpn CENTER SQUARE

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380 Washington Avenue, Roosevelt, New York 11575  
(516) 378-2000 fax (516) 223-3384

e-mail: [info@ucpn.org](mailto:info@ucpn.org) • web site: [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org)



The **ucpn** meets all the  
BBB's standards for  
Charitable Accountability

**Bob Masterson**  
President, Board of Directors

**Robert McGuire**  
Executive Director

**Annamaria Impagliazzo**  
President, Council of Auxiliaries

**Charles Evdos**  
Development Director

**Patricia Quinn**  
Editor

**Lois Boyle**  
Staff Writer

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 60th Anniversary

## 1941

- Juanita Baldwin organizes a small group of parents to meet and form the Spastic Children's Group.

## 1948

- The United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. is incorporated as a non-profit health organization on April 19th and serves 85 handicapped youngsters in the American Legion Hall in Hempstead.

## 1950

- A podiatry program is added to the program in Hempstead.

## 1951

- A seven-acre tract of land is purchased in Roosevelt for the construction of a cerebral palsy diagnostic and treatment center.

## 1952

- The new CP facility opens in Roosevelt with five classrooms offering medical and educational programs.

- The agency's name is changed to the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County.

- Services are expanded to include psychology and a sheltered workshop program.

## 1953

- A dental clinic is started at the center and staffed by volunteer professionals.

## 1955

- A new 14,000 square foot wing is dedicated in April increasing the space for pre-school and grade classes, vocational training and the workshop program.
- A summer camp, Green Twigs, is launched to provide a 6 week recreational program with therapy, on the grounds of the CP center.

## 1958

- A day treatment program is established for adults over age 21.

## 1959

- An ophthalmology department adds to the growing medical program.

## 1960

- An adapted campsite and playground opens on the grounds.

## 1961

- An additional wing of 15,000 square feet further expands the vocational rehabilitation services.

## 1963

- A 1,200 square foot outdoor pool with ramps permitting direct wheelchair access, becomes an addition to the Camp Green Twigs recreational complex with assistance from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 400.

## 1973

- The Five Towns Nursing Health Related facility in Woodmere accepts 50 adult clients residing on one floor.

## 1975

- An eight room, 15,000 sq. ft. multi-purpose wing is attached to the south side of the structure.

## 1981

- The Washington Avenue residence opens for eight previously institutionalized young adults with mental retardation.

## 1983

- The Communication laboratory opens with sophisticated electronic and computerized devices to assist individuals throughout the greater New York area.

## 1984

- The Renaissance at Bayville opens as a residence for 48 adults.

## 1985

- The UCP Bayview Nursing Home is acquired as a residence. Located in Island Park, it has 185 beds.

## 1986

- A rehabilitation technology department is formed to construct and sell various seating and mobility devices.

- The Headliners Rehabilitation Program is established with a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

- An adapted toy lending library is established for clients and families in the metropolitan area.

## 1989

- The Developmental School opens a home-based program for children from birth to age three.

- The agency is designated a regional training site for applied technology by the National Cerebral Palsy Association.

- Equipment lending library opens.

- Head injury program formally begins with the grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

## 1990

- Agency is designated an infant massage site by the N.Y. State Department of Education.

## 1991

- Developmental school certified to include learning disabled, mentally retarded and speech impaired children in its pre-school program.

- Child care facility opens at 2 Decatur Street for staff and community youngsters in cooperation with Innovative Learning Centers.

- The Marvin L. Lindner Pavilion is dedicated. Adds an additional 35,000 square feet to the agency. Occupied by 450 staff.

- Ground is broken for 30,000 square feet expansion of adult day treatment.

- Guardianship program is officially launched.

- Integrated child care begins.

- School enrollment reaches an all time high of 213.

- New York State funds toward the creation of adapted playground and the new recreation area are received.

- Respite opens for families on Long Island at the Radisson Plaza

- Client population grows to over 1,200

- The Rehabilitation Technology department holds its first exposition at the center for outside vendors which proved very successful. Hundreds of professionals and consumers attend.

- The Kagan house in Baldwin opens as an IRA (individual residential alternative).

## 1993

- The Diesman House in Freeport is donated to the agency to serve as a residence.

- Notification of two legislative grants totaling \$100,000 thanks to Senators Norman J. Levy and Ralph Marino is received. The funds are used to cover half the cost of the outdoor recreational area and equipment for clients in the ADT classrooms and workshop.

- Under the UCP Study Bill, a joint effort between UCP/NYS and OMRDD, the agency is awarded a grant to open two alternative residences.

- A free Saturday developmental screening for pre-school children is implemented.

- Total agency client population rises to 1,300 individuals receiving services.

- Sixty-six families participate in the agency's Respite program.

- A new program, Home and Community Based Waiver Services is funded by OMRDD, enabling the agency to provide case management and training for 25 individuals while allowing them to remain in their homes with their families.

- The Developmental School sets a record with 219 students.

## 1994

- An additional 30,000 square foot area opens for another 90 Adult Day Treatment participants.

- Three new residences open in Long Beach, the Heilbrunn House in East Meadow and the Edwards Street residence in Baldwin.

- Client population grows to 1,600

## 1995

- Richmond Road Residence opens in East Meadow for five residents.

- Vocational Rehabilitation Services Department changes its name to The Work Center at UCP Nassau

- Agency establishes a nutritional clinic.

- An affiliation with New York College of Podiatric Medicine is established

## 1996

- The Children's Learning Center enrollment increases to 237

- The Joseph Warantz Respite House is opened, providing planned and emergency respite to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families

- 4-H Club starts for boys and girls, 6 - 8 years old.

- Day Habilitation program is launched

## 1997

- Sensory Experiential Environment Room opens

- Conductive Education program is launched

- Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy launches the MOVE Program

- The agency establishes an internet site at [www.ucp-nassau.org](http://www.ucp-nassau.org)

- Virtual Reality is initiated as a recreational and treatment modality.

- The Plainview residence is opened.

## 1998

- UCP Nassau celebrates its 50th anniversary.

- Connections House opens to further expand the Traumatic Brain Injury Program



This banner on display in the ucpn atrium area is just the start of special touches around the agency in celebration of the 60th anniversary.

A look at the more recent highlights and developments of the last decade will appear in the next edition of Center Square.

## The Festival of Trees – Bringing the Community Together to Celebrate with **ucpn**

This year's Festival was filled with all the joy and fun one could ask for at holiday time and **ucpn** would like to extend thanks and appreciation to everyone who made the event so successful and delightful. The Festival would not be possible without the contributions of so many individuals and groups including the sponsors, tree designers, gingerbread creators, volunteers, entertainers and vendors. We also want to thank the friends, families and neighbors who attended over the three day weekend and enjoyed all there is to experience while helping raise significant funds for the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. We also thank WCBS-FM and Radio Disney who helped promote the Festival. Special mention must be made of Festival Chairperson, Teri Siegel who worked tirelessly to make the Festival possible.

### *Teddy Bear Tea*

Hundreds of youngsters and their families and their favorite bears enjoyed continental breakfast, checkups with the teddy bear doctors, dancing to the music of DJ Vic, a sing-along with Stacy Frank and the Magic & Comedy of Jimmy McClenahan at the annual tea party. Volunteers added to the fun as costumed characters and doing face painting and tattoos.

### *Breakfast with Santa*

Santa thrilled hundreds of guests at the annual Breakfast party to raise funds for **ucpn**. In addition to spending time with the "jolly man in the red suit," there was dancing with Snow White, Elmo, Care Bear and many other costumed characters and face painting and tattoos thanks to our wonderful girl scout volunteers.

### *Sugar Plum Ball*

Young ladies and their dads or other special males in their life, such as grandpas or uncles, enjoyed an elegant dinner and lots of dancing at the **ucpn** annual Sugar Plum Ball. The ensemble from Leggz Dance in Rockville Centre once again, generously volunteered their time and talent at the event and performed the Waltz of the Flowers from the Nutcracker and then offered waltzing lessons to all the guests. In addition, guests enjoyed visits with the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Snowflake Fairy, a corsage, magic shows, getting caricatures drawn, photos for souvenir snow globes and a lovely fairy necklace as a parting gift. Virginia Huie from News 12 was on hand to do a report on the Ball that was included in a Holiday Special.



From Kellenberg, Brother Daniel Griffin, S.M.; Latin School Chorus Director, Mrs. Sheila Zider and some members of the 6th grade chorus are thanked by **ucpn**'s Charles Evdos for their wonderful performance.



Festival Chairperson, Teri Siegel join Kevin Covais from American Idol, **ucpn** Executive Director, Bob McGuire, Amanda Colluccio from Idol and Mary Brosky from **ucpn**.



The Gaughran family came to Festival as volunteers and as guests to enjoy all the festivities!



Sal Fava, a CLC student, is surrounded by his family who came out to support the Festival of Trees.



Councilman Anthony Santino, Joan MacNaughton and Samantha Carrell from Leggz Ltd. Dance and **ucpn**'s Charles Evdos by the "Ballerina Dream" tree designed by Leggz and the Capezio Dance Shop in Rockville Centre.



Brad Shattuck and Mike Delillo, chefs from the Barry Tech Institute worked with students to create the Festival Gingerbread Village.



Ray Murphy, **ucpn** Board member joins his family and friends who organized a Girl Scout sponsored Teddy Bear sale to benefit **ucpn** at the Festival



The "Key West" tree is an annual favorite each year thanks to the creative Metro Parrot Head Club members.



Thanks to Silver Lake cookies, guests enjoyed yummy teddy bear cookies at the Teddy Bear Tea.



The Sugar Plum Fairy and the Snowflake Fairy lead the young ladies in a dance at the Sugar Plum Ball.



Enjoying time with Dad at the Ball



Priceless Dad-Daughter moment at the Sugar Plum Ball.



Virginia Huie from News 12 interviews guests at the Ball for a holiday special.



The Leggz Ensemble was the highlight of the Ball with their spectacular "Waltz of the Flowers" and waltzing lessons for all!



Enjoying a talk with Santa.



Some little princesses enjoy the Ball with their grandpas.



Feeling the joy that Festival brings!



Volunteers help make our events fun for all!



The dancers from the Ella Marie School of Dance take time after performing to decorate cookies at the Festival.



Abby enjoys time with Grandma, the Teddy Bear Doctor and the Care Bear at the tea!



Girls scouts helped with tattoos at the Breakfast with Santa and the Teddy Bear Tea.



The ensemble from Leggz Dance in Rockville Center delighted the audience with a variety of performances at the Festival!



Jimmy the Clown had the whole crowd giggling at the Teddy Bear Tea!



Teen volunteers helped our young guests at the Festival's "Clothe-A-Cookie" area with their creations.



The Kids Performing Who Kare got rave reviews for their excerpts from High School Musical at the Festival.



Enjoying time with Santa!



Girls scout volunteers also helped in the cookie area at the Festival.

# 55th Annual Forget-Me-Not Ball – Truly Memorable

This elegant black tie dinner dance was a wonderful evening for celebrating the good work of **ucpn** and an opportunity to bestow well-deserved honors on some of the generous people who help make a difference in the lives of the people with disabilities that **ucpn** serves.

The event was held at the Chateau Briand in Carle Place where almost 300 guests enjoyed a delicious dinner in beautiful surroundings and danced the night away. Creation, a group of talented singers from **ucpn** performed and truly touched the hearts of all in attendance with

their talent and enthusiasm.

The **ucpn** is very grateful to the Ball chairmen, Joe Koch and Tony Galano, all who served on the committee and all who attended and made the evening such a wonderful success. Over \$100,000 was raised to benefit **ucpn**.

The **ucpn** is extremely grateful to all the honorees for their great generosity and support and offers heartfelt congratulations to each of them.

## The honorees for the evening were:

Vincent and Barbara Tavella - Dr. Jack and Kelly McElwain Humanitarian Award"

James C. Herrmann - "Harold Jay Greenberg Torch of Leadership"

Bea Wellens – Lifetime Achievement Award

## About the Honorees

Jim Herrmann is a member of the **ucpn** Foundation Board and has been a major sponsor of various **ucpn** fundraising events including the "Toast of the Town" gourmet food and wine tasting event and the annual holiday favorite, "Breakfast with Santa."

Jim is the President of James C. Herrmann & Associates, Ltd., (JCH) a full service insurance agency and brokerage with offices in Rockville Centre, Denver and Atlanta. Jim is an Ex-Captain in the Rockville Centre Volunteer Fire Department, a Past President of The Friends of Mercy Medical Center and a past member of the Board of Directors of Mercy Medical Center and Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home. He is currently a member of The Board of Trustees of the Long Island Power Authority, the State University of New York College at Old Westbury Foundation, and The Long Island 9/11 Memorial.

Jim resides in Rockville Centre with his wife Donna, son James and twin daughters, Emma and Sarah.

The **ucpn** has benefited from the Tavella family's time, talent and generosity for over two decades. Barbara has been an active member of the N. Valley Stream Auxiliary for 23 years, getting her start with UCP upon moving to N. Valley Stream where she became friends with the parents of her children's classmates. In 1984, Barbara attended a membership dinner fashion show and enjoyed it so much that she attended next the auxiliary meeting and soon after, was named Service Vice President. Barbara has held various positions over the years on the NVS Auxiliary Board, including President from 1990-1992 and is currently serving as President for a second term from 2006-2008. Many fundraisers including Chinese Auctions, Military Bridges, Cruises and Golf Outings were chaired and co-chaired by Barbara. Even the Festival of Trees has benefited from her help over the years.

Vinnie always lent a helping hand with the Auxiliary fundraisers to Atlantic City and Foxwoods, but became more involved with **ucpn** in 1996 when the decision was made to run a golf outing. An avid golfer, Vinnie played in other charity outings and thought it was a good way to raise money while having fun. He contacted his friends and ran an outing that resulted in a great turnout the first year. Throughout the years he was able to gain the support of his associates in the Plumbing Industry and since then the Master Plumbers Council has sponsored the very successful golf outing. It has proved to be a very significant fundraiser for 12 years, raising over \$300,000 for **ucpn**.

Vinnie has been an active member of the Licensed Plumbing Association since 1980. He served as President of the Queens County Master Plumbers Association in 1993-1994 and is currently serving as President of the Master Plumbers Council of the City of NY for 2007-2008.

The Tavelas have been married for 35 years and have two children, Linda and Vincent, who have also donated their time at the Festival of Trees. Barbara and Vincent enjoy traveling and spending time with their three loving grandchildren, Carissa, Richie and Nicole.

Almost since the time that the **ucpn** was established in 1948, Bea Wellens has been on the scene helping and volunteering. Her integrity and sincerity has been witnessed by many people who were influential in the growth and success of the agency through the years including political leaders and corporate executives and most importantly, the consumers and the families who benefit from the programs and services at **ucpn**.

Getting her start as an Auxiliary President in Franklin Square in 1958, Bea quickly moved up the



Vincent and Barbara Tavella and Bob McGuire.



Honoree Jim Herrman with **ucpn**'s Mary Brosky, the Ball coordinator and Joe Koch, Ball Co-Chair.



Bea Wellens and Bob McGuire.



Bea Wellens surrounded by her family.



Chris & Ernie Bartol and Nancy & Tony Galano



The Tavella Family



Jim Herrman and family

Bea Wellens has been on the scene helping and volunteering. Her integrity and sincerity has been witnessed by many people who were influential in the growth and success of the agency through the years including political leaders and corporate executives and most importantly, the consumers and the families who benefit from the programs and services at **ucpn**. Getting her start as an Auxiliary President in Franklin Square in 1958, Bea quickly moved up the ranks of the Council, serving as Council President from 1970 – 1974 and has been a member of the agency's Board of Directors since 1970. In 1974, she was named to the State Board of Directors and served on the National Board for 10 years. Bea served on the Advisory Boards for BOCES and for the Nassau County Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. Her accomplishments with all these groups were numerous. It was Bea who convinced the Variety Club Organization to donate six sorely needed vans to **ucpn**. The Calico Pantry Cookbook, a classic treasure of recipes gathered from friends of **ucpn**, was Bea's idea back in 1974. The highly sought after compilation has been reprinted nine times and has generated significant funds as well as new friends for the agency.

Bea has always played an active role in advocating for the rights of individuals with disabilities on national and state levels. There are so many behind the scenes contributions that Bea makes. One of these includes the establishment of a fund that underwrites a leisure services trip for two adults with disabilities each year. Bea has been a valued member of the Forget-Me-Not Ball Committee for over 40 years!

Everyone at **ucpn** is truly grateful to Bea for her selflessness and her generosity. The agency has benefited from her valuable service, her caring spirit and the gifts of her time and talent. She has been instrumental in helping **ucpn** carry out its mission of assisting individuals with disabilities and has done so with grace, humility and zest.

# The Children's Learning Center at Holiday Time



Decorating the holiday "tree".



Enjoying the CLC Holiday concert.



Members of Class 522 travel to the stage for their performance.



Santa made a special visit to the CLC Holiday party.



Smiles galore at Santa's arrival.



Staff and students from Class 528 express their joy at holiday time!

## Scouts at CLC Send Letters to Special Troops

At their December 6, 2007 meeting, Cub Scout Pack 11 and Boy Scout Troop 11 of the Special Programs Division at The Children's Learning Center of United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County wrote holiday letters to the troops serving in the armed forces.

The troop leaders informed the student scout members that the brave men and women of the armed forces fight on a daily basis to keep us all safe. Unfortunately, some of these men and women have gotten hurt while fighting for our safety and freedom. The scouts then wrote letters to injured soldiers using picture symbols to complete prepared sentence templates. Using symbols enabled each scout to compose a letter regardless of his level of ability.

Following the letter writing campaign, Jim Ferris, Special Programs Division Commissioner, Theodore Roosevelt Council, BSA, and Vietnam War Veteran answered questions about what it was like to be a soldier. It was a very meaningful troop gathering. Cub Scout Pack 11 and Boy Scout Troop 11 would like to wish the troops in the armed forces, "A Peaceful, Healthy New Year!"



CLC student Kevin puts his heart into his letter.



CLC students Justin, Frank and Shaun add some decorations to their letter.



Teen student Devin holds his finished letter.



Members of the Girl Scout Troop 1229 here at CLC selling cookies along with their troop leaders. This troop is unique as the only one for young ladies with disabilities in Nassau County.



CLC student and scout member Faiz is thrilled to be part of the letter campaign.



CLC Teacher and Scout leader Gloria Jean Berberich joins student Benjamin.



Students from Class 522 at CLC made handpainted valentine hearts for the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance fundraiser hosted by the Auxiliary Junior League volunteers.



# The Nassau Thunderbolts

## Celebrating 20 Years of Talent and Good Sportsmanship



**Provided by team Captain, Charlie Fleish, here are 20 competitions that represent 20 years of the Thunderbolts in action:**

- Chestnut Hill, PA (Chestnut Hill Academy) site of the very first competition that the team attended in Regionals in Track and Field
- New Haven, CT - second area of Track and Field Regionals that the team attended along with Powerlifting
- Hartford, CT - site of Powerlifting Regionals (1996)
- New London, CT (Connecticut College) site of Nationals in Field, Powerlifting and Boccia for 7-8 years.
- Wright State University in Ohio site of Regional event for Track & Field
- UCP Suffolk site of Regionals for Track & Field from 1988-1994
- Atlanta, GA site of the Paralympics Games, entire team took a trip to Atlanta for 5 days to see games - 1996
- Springfield, MA - Track and Field Championships, 1997
- Michigan State U. site of Boccia Nationals in 2004 & 2005.
- Michigan U. site of Regional events from 2004-2005 for Field events.
- Chicago, IL 1998, US National Team trials for Powerlifting and site of Boccia Nationals in 2006 and 2007
- Pensacola, FL (1999) site of Powerlifting team trials for 2000 Paralympic Games
- Topeka, KS, (2004) site of USA Paralympic Boccia Team trials for 2004 team
- Dubai~ Saudi Arabia site of 1998 2nd World Powerlifting Championships
- 2001, Portugal, World Boccia Championship
- 2003, New Zealand World Boccia Cup
- Windsor Classic, Windsor Ontario (Canada, 2003) Boccia Indoor Games
- Montreal, Canada Defi Sportif (Boccia Tournament in 2005)
- Argentina, Mar De Plata, Para Pan Americans (Boccia 2005)
- Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, World Games (Boccia 2006)



Stephanie Morales, a 6th grade student at the Wisdom Lane Middle School in Levittown designed the winning Thunderbolts 20th anniversary logo. Joining Stephanie (2nd from left) is her art teacher, Claudia Farishian (left) and Thunderbolts Team Captain, Charlie Fleish and Head Coach, Mary C. Hodge sporting shirts with the new logo at an awards ceremony held at Wisdom Lane.

As we "sprung" ahead one hour on March 9, coincidentally the same day as our Polar Bear Swim in Oyster Bay, it's almost easy to forget the cold, ice and snow this winter past, but it's not so easy, nor would we want, to forget the overwhelming number of volunteers who so generously devoted many hours of time at the many winter fundraisers we recently had. Your enthusiasm, flexibility and willingness to pitch in wherever you were needed at multiple events does not cease to amaze me! How lucky and thankful we are to have such special people supporting **ucpn**. Whether it's volunteering at our center on a day-to day basis or at a specific fundraiser, your compassion and involvement is to be commended.

Our combined focus group/holiday party took place in January. We welcomed new volunteers and realized that we have over 40 ongoing volunteers within our agency, with more than 350 volunteers throughout the year helping at various special events!

## Volunteer's Corner

By Elizabeth Katz  
Coordinator of Volunteers



At the Annual ucpn Volunteer Luncheon

During the weekend of April 11 – 13, we're trying something new – "Skate for **ucpn** at United Skates". See the discount coupon on the last page for further details. Although we don't need volunteers **during** that weekend (except on the skating rink), we could certainly use your help in distributing discount coupons **before** the event, and spreading the word. If you and your families want to skate as well, the rink will be full of **ucpn** employees, volunteers, and supporters.

So please take a look at your calendars and our "Save The Date" calendar to mark those days ahead where volunteer opportunities arise. Please call me at (516) 377-2062 and let me know if you'd like to volunteer for certain events. You're always welcome, you're always needed and you're always appreciated.

You are invited to attend

## Pastabilities

The annual dinner fundraiser for the Nassau Thunderbolts Sports Team at ucpn



April 5, 2008 • 4–8 pm  
Levittown Hall • \$20.00 per person

All you can eat salad, pasta, meatballs and bread served by the Thunderbolts coaching staff. Soda, coffee and tea and cookies for dessert Entertainment too!

Call 516-378-2000 ext 421 for reservations or more information

All proceeds will go towards funding the team competition in Atlanta this Summer.

## COUNCIL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

**O**n December 4th, the Council of Auxiliaries held their Holiday Elves Shopping Spree. This program allows the students in the Children's Learning Center at **ucpn** to purchase gifts for their family members with "make believe" money, at a store set up in the Center's auditorium. The merchandise for the happy shoppers is purchased with funds generously donated by the Homemakers Council of Nassau County.

Another of Council's holiday traditions is their involvement with the Holiday Angel Program. This program has provided more than 1,100 holiday gifts over the past 10 years for the consumers of **ucpn**. Members of Council, its auxiliaries and other kind and caring friends generously donated these gifts and as a result many of the recipients were able to enjoy what many of us often take for granted. All purchases were to be made and brought to Council's holiday party that was held on December 18th. The party attendees added over 150 wrapped gifts of all shapes and sizes to the center's already festively decorated auditorium. At the conclusion of the day's festivities, the gifts were sorted and later distributed to the delighted consumers.

Prior to the holiday party celebration, a short meeting was held and auxiliary representatives turned in \$48,000 to Council President, Annamaria Impagliazzo. These funds, representing the return on months



Some of the dedicated and generous Holiday Elves.



**ucpn** Junior League members get sworn in at the Auxiliary Holiday Luncheon.

of hard-working fundraising efforts, will be used to benefit consumers receiving services at **ucpn**.

This meeting was also the happy setting for the installation of the officers of Council's newest auxiliary, the Junior League. Robert McGuire, **ucpn's** Executive Director proudly performed this duty. The new officers are President, Monica Cohen; Executive Vice President, Lisa Sakhai; Treasurer/Financial Secretary, Alayne Waldhauser; Public Relations Vice President, Rachel Rosenberg; Fundraising Vice President, Christine Silver; and Fundraising Committee members, Naomi Glazer and Miriah Koumpourlis.

After a delicious luncheon catered by Kings Super Market of Garden City, the talented Children's Learning Center Chorus serenaded a delighted audience. The children's happy faces and enthusiastic rendering of classic holiday songs ended the day on a merry note.

The members of the Council of Auxiliaries, **ucpn**, look forward to a successful and rewarding 2008!

## FASHION FANTASY 2007 – IN REVIEW

**O**n October 18th, 2007 the Council of Cerebral Palsy Auxiliaries sponsored its annual fashion show and dinner. *Fashion Fantasy 2007* was especially meaningful because we were privileged to have as our honoree, Christine Bartol, a tireless advocate for individuals with disabilities and a long time supporter of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**).

The over 200 guests attending enjoyed professionally modeled designer fashions, featuring spectacular furs by Maximilian at Bloomingdales, in a show orchestrated by Debra Van Horn Productions. The delicious food prepared by The Crest Hollow Country Club's professional chefs only added to the ambiance of the evening.

**Mark your calendar**, this "must go to" event will take place this year on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7th**, again at The Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. Come, join us in supporting **ucpn**, and enjoy a very special evening.

If you are interested in supporting this event with a company or personal sponsorship, you can contact the Council Office at (516) 378-2000, ext. 220.



Honoree, Christine Bartol and Bob McGuire.



Arlene Koch (standing, right), wife of **ucpn** Board member Joseph Koch, enjoying the evening with friends

## Knight to Remember "Pirate's Adventure"



"Treasure this Moment" - Costume prize - Best Couple



Best Costume - young pirate

**O**n December 2nd, the Grand Ballroom of the Uniondale Marriott was the setting of the Council of Auxiliaries popular fundraiser, *A Knight to Remember*, with the theme this year being "A Pirate's Adventure." With colorful and creative decorations, the room was transformed into a tropical island complete with pirate ships, palm trees, parrots and buried treasure.

This was the 6th year for this mother and son event, and the attendees, with enthusiastic and glowing remarks, were heard to say that it was one of the best! Dressed in imaginative costumes, some that would win prizes later in the evening, the boys walked the plank that took them to "Treasure Island" and the obstacle course. The DJ's music and games kept things lively, as did a surprise visit from a pair of combatant pirates, and later boys and moms alike, sat quietly spellbound as they watched the magician work his slight of hand. It was heartwarming to watch the boys and moms working together against the clock, gathering as many items as possible for the scavenger hunt, and then sharing a special dance at the end of the evening.

Everyone had a wonderful time and is looking forward to next year's *A Knight to Remember* with anticipation and excitement. Please mark **DECEMBER 7TH, 2008** on your calendar and plan to join us on another adventure.

To be placed on our mailing list call 516-378-2000, ext. 220 or log on to our website at [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org).



Most Original Costume

## Teri Siegel named the "Anthony J. Koenig Volunteer of the Year" by the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State

The **Anthony J. Koenig Volunteer of the Year Award** is given by the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State to recognize an individual who has volunteered significant time and energy to people with disabilities or has promoted volunteer development.

The 2007 honoree is **Teri Siegel** from the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (**ucpn**). Ms. Siegel has worked tirelessly in several capacities for more than 15 years to raise money and public awareness in support of **ucpn**, its programs and the people it serves. In more than a decade as Chair of the Festival of Trees committee she has helped build the event into one of the premier special events on Long Island, raising nearly \$4 million. Ms. Siegel has been a member of the **ucpn** Board of Directors for 16 years and has served as the Board's Vice President since 1992. She also serves as chair of the Board's Fundraising Committee and sits on the organization's Foundation Board. Her dedication to the agency and her boundless energy and enthusiasm are an inspiration to everyone she meets.

Three dedicated **ucpn** staff members from the Bayville facility were also honored at the dinner as part of a "Celebrate Staff" initiative.



Teri Siegel glows as she accepts her award from Mrs. Anthony Koenig at the CP-NYS dinner ceremony in Albany.



**Gina Cassero, Recreation Assistant** – Gina is an outstanding employee in every way and works tirelessly to arrange daily trips and events for the residents to enjoy.



**Linda Smith, LPN** – Linda has been a caring and compassionate nurse serving the residents at Bayville for over 20 years.



**Marley Alexis, ADL Trainer** – Marly is known for going above and beyond the call of duty with a positive attitude and a cheerful smile.

## Imagine Early Learning Center at **ucpn**

Have you heard about Imagine Early Learning Center, **ucpn's** on-site childcare facility? This center provides childcare for children between the ages of 6 weeks - 4 years, for both the community and employees of **ucpn**. Imagine is located at 2 Decatur Street. Enza Britos is the new Teacher/Director, appointed in September. Enza joins Imagine after teaching in the public and private sector for five years. She holds her Bachelors degree in Sociology and Masters degree in Early Childhood Education, both received from CUNY Queens College. Tiara-Kerrin Hawkins is Imagine's newly appointed Assistant Director, who is currently in the process of receiving her Masters degree in Elementary Education from C.W. Post.



Enza Britos (right) and Tiara Kerrin Hawkins (left) join some of the children they care for at the Imagine Early Learning Center.

## Creation Helps Raise Disability Awareness in Local Schools

During the month of December, Creation visited all of the Elementary Schools in District 13 in Valley Stream for "Disability Awareness." Maura Wachsberger, an instructor in **ucpn's** Life Options program and the Music Director for Creation, accompanied group members David Tindal, Chris Wawzronek, Riva Zinno and Melissa Herrera to the school performances.

Lou Panacciulli, Music Teacher in the Valley Stream District and the Conductor of the Nassau Pops is a good friend to Creation and was instrumental in setting up this opportunity. Sessions began with the group members talking to the children about various disabilities, followed by a question and answer period. The children's questions were excellent. They



Lou Panacciulli joins Creation for a rehearsal at **ucpn**.

appeared to be compassionate and sensitive. This was followed with a 40 minute performance during which Creation demonstrated their amazing "can do" attitude and positive spirit. By the end of the performance the children were singing along with the group. One fifth grade class shared that they were learning sign language to a beautiful Barbra Streisand song, "At the Same Time."

Creation was invited to return to one of the schools 2 weeks later to experience their performance and thoroughly enjoyed it! Creation has extended an invitation to the students from Valley Stream to come to **ucpn** to perform.

## Director's Message

(continued from page 12)

In this, our 60th year, it is important to recognize the environment that has accomplished so much, yet is currently being threatened with reductions while adding unfunded mandates. There is a cost to buy power wheel chairs, communication devices, maintain facilities and provide quality assurance and corporate compliance. Be mindful of these threats to real progress and be involved in informing and educating your neighbors, your friends and your representatives on the local, state and national level. It is only with vigilance and action that we will assure the celebration of future milestone anniversaries for our agency and that our children and adults, who need our support, will get what they need and more if we can provide it.

THANK YOU TO ALL who made this event a success!

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

"Remember to adjust your clocks for daylight savings time on this day"

# Polar Bear Swim

**Free Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Hot Dogs, Tea & Soup**

**MARCH 9, 2008**

Theodore Roosevelt Park, Oyster Bay  
Festivities start at 12:30 pm  
Swim starts at 1:30 pm

Rain, Snow, or Shine

Raffles & D.J.

Indoor Assembly Area

**Z100** & Greg T.

**Coca-Cola**

**Atlantic Shores**  
The Original **Canterbury Ales**

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**The United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.**  
For more information please call 516.378.2000 x648  
or visit our website at [www.UCPN.org](http://www.UCPN.org)

**ucpn**

Honorary Co-Chairpersons  
John Venditto, Supervisor, Town of Oyster Bay  
Harvey Weisenberg, NYS Assemblyman

Chairpersons  
Jack Sullivan and Lenny Ferraro

Design By: Bryan Cimenelli, Nora Mott, Joe Trentadue

## Skate for ucpn at United Skates!

Please join us for a special weekend of family fun at United Skates!  
**Bring this discount card & pay only \$4 admission**  
(Regular Admission \$7/child, \$8/Adult)  
(Skate rental \$4 if needed)

You save, and the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (ucpn) receives \$2.00 for each redeemed discount card!  
(Print out extra discount cards at [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org))  
There are multiple sessions to choose from for your family's convenience!

Friday 4/11: 6:30-8:30PM, Saturday 4/12: 10AM-12PM (ages 10 and under only)  
Saturday 12:30-3PM or 3:30-6PM or Sunday 4/13: 12-2:30PM or 3-5:30PM

For information contact Elizabeth at ucpn 516-378-2000 ext 352

Family, Fun, Music, Games, Prizes, Live DJ and More!!

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**ucpn**

## 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

## You hold the KEYS to helping children and adults with disabilities...

### Donate your Car, RV or Boat

and help the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.

For details and a donation form see our website at [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org) or call 516-378-2000 ext. 648

Any condition, no hassle, free pickup, 7 days a week!  
Tax deduction based on car resale.

**ucpn**

**United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.**  
Assisting individuals with disabilities since 1948

## We invite you to visit our website

[www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org)

Try using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine and help raise funds for ucpn each time you search!

# Director's Message



**Robert McGuire**  
Executive Director

Our organization is celebrating 60 years of being responsive to the needs of children and adults with disabilities and throughout the entire time, the foundation for our success has been a series of amazing partnerships. Initially, the partnerships were small, but the visions were not. As relationships developed, grew and matured, the expectations expanded. As the voices of people with disabilities and their families grew louder, more and more people listened and became more informed, educated and involved. Today, we provide programs and services to over 1,800 children and adults and we reach thousands of our neighbors throughout the County with our message of disability awareness. Our programs and services initiatives are individualized and more effective than ever before. The skills and loyalty of our staff are what makes progress possible and for this, I want to thank and recognize each of them. Walk through the halls at our campus in Roosevelt and you will be moved and impressed by the atmosphere of "can do" that permeates throughout. Regardless of whether it is the Article 28 clinic services, adult day programs (Life Options, Day Habilitation or Day Treatment) or the Children's Learning Center, any observer can't help but recognize that this is a special place. Visit our residences and you will witness the comfort of the individuals who reside in these beautiful homes and the care and attention provided by our dedicated staff. Children and adults are involved in meaningful activities that are fostered and supported by our committed staff. Volunteers are indispensable additions to these day to day efforts and their contributions are vital and truly appreciated.

Our organization is synonymous with volunteerism. In fact, while we are celebrating our 60th Anniversary our Council of Auxiliaries is celebrating 58 years of support. A significant group of members have been active volunteers and supporters for almost the entire time. At this year's volunteer luncheon, 25 members were recognized for their service – four have been with us for more than 35 years and 13 have served between 10 and 30 years. The Nassau Cerebral Palsy Association Board of Directors is 36 members strong with each of them deeply invested in our agency's financial stability and committed towards steering our agency in the direction of progress, while maintaining the ability to provide state-of-the-art treatment and services. Our Foundation Board has challenged all of us to support the Planned Giving Campaign, established less than three years ago, with a target of \$10 million dollars in a five-year period. We are delighted that over \$6 million dollars has already been given or promised and are encouraged that this is just the beginning of ensuring that **ucpn**

## Council President's Message



**Annamaria Impagliazzo**  
Council of Auxiliaries  
President

We are beginning a new year proud of the accomplishments made in 2007. A total of \$185,000 was turned into **ucpn** from a variety of fundraising events run by both Council and the Auxiliaries. This is an impressive amount with today's economic challenges. Things are looking bright with the establishment of a new auxiliary, the Junior League, whose members are full of enthusiasm and new ideas. We congratulate these wonderful young women on the fun and successful Valentine's Dance fundraiser they held to benefit **ucpn**.

We are revamping the structure of Council and reevaluating our fundraising events, both old and new to reflect our changing times. Please join us in this effort by participating at these events and other Council functions. Please see our calendar of upcoming events in the Council of Auxiliaries section of our website by logging on to [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org). We have to work together in the New Year to reach our mutual goals.

I would like to wish all a healthy and prosperous year.



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**Skate for ucpn at United Skates**  
On April 11, 12 and 13  
*Detail inside!*

will not only be viable in the present but that it will also be responsive in the years ahead. It is my privilege to thank and recognize all of our corporate sponsors and public servants. Without their generosity and leadership, this long journey could not have been as fruitful. The individuals who have received services from **ucpn**, and their families, are the glue that binds us all together. It is their courage, perseverance, hard work and accomplishments that are the proof that all of our efforts are important and effective.

*(continued on page 10)*



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## We want you to have something to count on when you retire

Planning for a financially secure retirement is easier said than done. Conventional retirement plans limit the amount you can contribute each year, and the wider choice of plans available under current law can be extremely confusing. Many taxpayers – especially two-income couples – aren't even eligible for the new plans.

Fortunately, friends of UCP Nassau can supplement their regular retirement plans with I.R.S.-approved charitable gift annuities that can pay up to 11.3% for life, depending on age.

Age:	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90
Rate:	5.3%	5.5%	5.7%	6.0%	6.5%	7.1%	8.0%	9.5%	11.3%

**For details, call Charles Evdos at (516) 378-2000, ext. 648**