



# The Family Buzz

Bancroft's Electronic  
Communication for  
Families.

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## Upcoming Events

**The Bancroft School's 9th Annual Summer Arts Festival**  
August 18  
Cooley Hall Gym,  
Haddonfield Campus  
9 a.m. to noon  
Contact: Janice DeLozier, (856) 524-7352

**Brick Program's Mid-summer Party for Staff and Persons Served**  
August 20  
Brick Campus  
Contact: Sarah Gharbi, (732) 206-1577 ext. 103

**First Annual Pep Rally for Community**



## Bancroft Night at the Phillies

Even a heatwave couldn't stop us, as more than 100 kids and adults from Bancroft enjoyed a special night at Citizens Bank Park, courtesy of the Philadelphia Phillies. This lively crowd - people we serve, staff and family members - cheered the Phillies on to 6-0 win at the July 23 game against the Colorado Rockies.

Another highlight of the evening: seeing our "One World - For Everyone" video play on the giant scoreboard - with tens of thousands of people watching.

In the photos above, Phillies player (and Bancroft board member!) Greg Dobbs visits with our group before the game. At left are Bancroft President Toni Pergolin and Deanna Webster, an individual served in our Delaware Program, with Dobbs. At right, Dobbs poses with Bancroft students Jon Skapetsos and Eddie Smith.

Watch for more photos as we get them from the Phillies!

## Eggerding published in Arc newsletter

Healthy Times, a publication of the Arc of New Jersey, this month published an article by Dr. Caroline Eggerding, Bancroft's vice president of clinical services and chief medical officer.

The piece gives an overview of our treatment philosophy in the Lindens program, and shares one family's story. Its title: "The Balancing Act: Uncovering the Most Effective Treatments to Decrease Severe Behaviors and Increase Life Skills."

Healthy Times is a medical newsletter for healthcare professionals and caregivers of individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

[Click here](#) for the newsletter

**Services for Adults**

August 22  
Lindenwold Moose  
Lodge  
Contact: Jeanne  
Bozicek, (856) 428-  
0685, ext. 128

**Riversharks Game -  
Community Services  
for Adults**

August 28  
Campbell's Field  
Camden, NJ  
Contact: Jeanne  
Bozicek, (856) 428-  
0685, ext. 128

**Summer Picnic -  
Community Services  
for Adults**

September 12  
Liberty Park  
Columbus, NJ  
Contact: Jeanne  
Bozicek, (856) 428-  
0685, ext. 128

**Pediatric and  
Adolescent  
Program Advisory  
Committee Mtg.**

September 13  
Lullworth  
Conference Room,  
Haddonfield  
Campus  
4 to 6 p.m.  
Contact: Melanie  
Bianucci, (856) 524-  
7287

**Bancroft Day**

October 16  
Challenge Grove  
Park,  
Cherry Hill, NJ (near  
Haddonfield  
Campus)  
Contact: Debbie  
Conner, (856) 524-  
7023

**Butterfly Ball**

## New senior-director appointments

We are very pleased to announce that **Clair Rohrer** has accepted the position of senior director of operations for our New Jersey adult residential service continuum for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and **Lisa Kubisiak** has assumed the position of senior director of operations for Brain Injury Services. These announcements are a follow-up to our June 10 communication in which we announced changes in our organizational structure to join together our intellectual and developmental disabilities continuum under one leadership structure, and our continuum for adults with acquired brain injuries under another. Please join us in congratulating both of these individuals for assuming these important roles within the organization.

Clair Rohrer has been with Bancroft since 1988, in positions of increasing responsibility. She has served as senior director over our residential and day programs in Brick Township, the Judith B. Flicker Residences in Voorhees, and the community living programs in Delaware for many years. Most recently, she assumed responsibility for Community Residential Services for Adults. She has more than 25 years of experience in the field, and earned her master of arts degree in education, and a bachelor of science degree in psychology from LaSalle University.

Rohrer will assume responsibility for all of Bancroft's New Jersey residential programs serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, which include Community Residential Services for Adults, Flicker Residences and Mullica Hill. Since a majority of persons served in the Brick program have acquired brain injuries, that program will fall within our Brain Injury Services continuum. **Violet Mwangi** will continue to lead the Mullica Hill program and will report to Rohrer. We are still in the process of interviewing for the senior clinical director position for programs serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Rene Vala** will transfer from our brain injury programs to the Community Services for Adults program, reporting to Rohrer in a newly created director position. Vala has 20 years experience working with people with intellectual disabilities, including ten years directing residential programs at Community Quest Inc. She has a bachelor of science degree from the University of Delaware.

Lisa Kubisiak assumed the position of program director in Bancroft Brain Injury Services about a year ago. Prior to joining Bancroft, Kubisiak was with The Mentor Network/NJ Mentor where she worked for nearly ten years, most recently as director of business development. She served as program director at Audubon Healthcare Group prior to joining Mentor, and earned a bachelor of science degree in special education at Pennsylvania State University. Kubisiak will assume responsibility for our Cherry Hill Brain Injury Services programs, as well as our Brick and Plainsboro programs. As senior director of operations, she will partner with Dr. Cynthia Boyer, senior clinical director for Brain Injury Programs.

October 22  
The Westin  
Mount Laurel  
Contact: Kimberly  
Caputo, (856) 348-  
1145

## Students earn high scores on state evaluation

Bancroft students performed very well on this year's New Jersey Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA) - a state-required standardized assessment for students who are unable to take typical standardized tests.

Of the 73 Bancroft students who participated in the APA this past school year:

- 90% scored Proficient or higher in Language Arts Literacy
- 95% scored Proficient or Advanced Proficient in Mathematics
- 86% of the students who also participated in the Science content area (grades 4, 8 and 11 only) scored Proficient or Advanced Proficient in that area

Rather than giving standardized tests on particular days, the APA evaluates portfolios of students' performance data collected during the school year. The state's education department then evaluates this data to measure students' progress toward New Jersey's educational standards. Teachers collected this year's data on student performance during instructional activities covering specific skills, from September 2009 until February 2010.

Congratulations to our students and staff for these outstanding scores!

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## Bancroft to receive Art-Reach award

Bancroft will be honored this fall by Art-Reach, a nonprofit that breaks down barriers to cultural experiences.

Art-Reach will give Bancroft its Commitment to Cultural Access Award, during its annual jazz brunch and silent auction. The event -- titled "In the Mood: a Celebration of Swing" -- is scheduled for Sunday Nov. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Park Hyatt at the Bellevue in Philadelphia.

This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations to making the arts more accessible to people with disabilities or economic disadvantages. Within Bancroft, people served in the Flicker Residences have enjoyed the tremendous benefits of Art-Reach membership for many years. Plans are under way to expand that membership organization-wide, opening up a world of cultural opportunities for others served across Bancroft.

The mission of Art-Reach is to enrich lives by connecting underserved audiences with cultural experiences so that they may enjoy and benefit from the transformative powers of the arts.

For more information on the awards brunch or to purchase tickets, contact Art-Reach at (215) 568-2115 or e-mail [rrobbins@art-reach.org](mailto:rrobbins@art-reach.org). For more information on Art-Reach, check out their website: [http://www.art-reach.org/ARR\\_Mi.html](http://www.art-reach.org/ARR_Mi.html)

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## DDD Today newsletter

[Click here](#) for the next issue of DDD today. Articles include:

- The Arc of Somerset partners with Boggs Center and DDD for Pilot Project
- DDD Presents County-Based Forums
- \$60 million in Affordable Care Act grants from Feds
- Olmstead
- Announcements: Autism NJ Workshops; Monmouth Co. Accessible Beach Guide (website); NJ Parent Link.

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## New federal employment program marks 20 years of ADA

*The following article is by the New Jersey Association of Community Providers.*

Last week, President Obama celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The president made remarks celebrating the progress that has been made since the ADA was enacted, but also acknowledged that there is much work left to be done.

Among the initiatives the president discussed was an executive order to create federal employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Recognizing that people living with disabilities are underrepresented in the federal workforce, the nation's largest employer, and have higher unemployment levels than the rest of the population, the executive order directs several federal agencies to design model recruitment and hiring strategies for people with disabilities. Staff working at federal agencies will also receive training.

In an effort to increase opportunities, the president discussed this initiative as advancing the principles of "equal access, equal opportunities and the freedom to make our lives what we will."

We are pleased that the administration has prioritized increasing opportunities for employment for people with disabilities and welcome this new initiative.

For more details on the employment initiative and the president's remarks about the 20th anniversary of the ADA, click on the links below:

[The full executive order](#)

[The president's remarks on the 20th Anniversary of the ADA](#)

## Family Fun Day at Clementon Park and Splash World

On Sunday Aug. 15, Clementon Park and Splash World will host an Autism Speaks Family Fun Day. The facility is offering a reduced admission price of \$17.50, and will donate \$5 from each admission to Autism Speaks. To purchase tickets, [click here](#) to print a flyer and present it at the front gate. The park opens at 11 a.m. Water-park rides close at 7 p.m., and theme-park rides close at 9 p.m.

Autism Speaks' staff and committee members will be at the Autism Speaks booth, located near the main entrance, throughout the day. They will offer general information about autism and the programs and services of Autism Speaks.

For park-specific questions, visit [www.clementonpark.com](http://www.clementonpark.com). Contact Autism Speaks with additional questions at (856) 858-5400.

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