



# The Family Buzz

Bancroft's Electronic  
Communication for  
Families.

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## Upcoming Events

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



Adrienne Beatty (left) and Ryland Danley relax during the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey's annual beach outing, held last month in Ocean City, N.J. Beatty and Danley are both enrolled in Bancroft Brain Injury Services. Dozens of people supported by Bancroft attended the outing, including those from the Flicker Residences and Mullica Hill Campus.

## N.J. Brain Injury Association Beach Day 2010

*By Peter Fisher, a person served by Bancroft's Flicker Residences for older adults*

We could not have asked for better weather. It was hot and breezy. The sun was bright, perfect for movies and pictures. The beach was crowded with families, children and participants in the event. Lunch was served complimentary-- a beach picnic choice of pizza or hoagie. Those who wished went out in the water using the water buggies (or beach wheelchairs). Everyone who went enjoyed themselves. To top off the beautiful day at the beach, Flicker stopped to eat out on our way home!

[Click here](#) to view additional photos from the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey Beach Day 2010

**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  
\*rain date: October 17

**Butterfly Ball**

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

## Our voices have been heard!

### *N.J. eliminates R-word*

N.J. Governor Chris Christie on Monday signed into law a bill that eliminates disrespectful words -- including "mental retardation" and "feeble-minded" -- from all state statutes and regulations.

This is wonderful news for people at Bancroft and across the country who have been supporting the Spread the Word to End the Word campaign. In fact, many self-advocates from Bancroft have been actively involved in efforts to remove the R-word, and Todd Emmons was even there to witness the signing.

This was a proud day for Emmons, in particular, because he has testified at legislative hearings and spoken at rallies in support of this bill.

Christie says he regrets that it took so long to get the bill passed, and is proud to have signed it, according to NJ.com. "This is making sure each citizen in our state is treated with the respect they deserve....," the website quotes Christie. "It's their government, too."

Congratulations to everyone involved for all their efforts in changing the R-word to R-E-S-P-E-C-T!!

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## Delaware mom makes the news

Parent Micki Edelsohn was featured in Delaware's News Journal newspaper on Sunday, in a story, photos and web video. The paper covered Edelsohn in its "25 Who Matter" series, which focuses on people who help others in an "extraordinary" way.

The glowing report recognizes Edelsohn's work to raise funds and spearhead construction of 25 beautiful homes in Delaware neighborhoods for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Thirteen of the homes are staffed and operated by Bancroft, including the home in which Edelsohn's son, Robert, has lived since 1996.

Several people served by Bancroft are included in the story and accompanying video, which can be viewed by clicking below.

[Delaware News Journal article](#)

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## Foundation continues extraordinary commitment

Few things in life are guaranteed. But one family foundation has given reliably -- and most generously -- to Bancroft for 20 years. The Harry Lebensfeld Foundation has donated more than \$3.4 million since it began supporting our mission in 1990. This year has been no different: We are pleased to report that Bancroft recently received the

foundation's annual gift of \$100,000.

Instrumental in this longstanding partnership are Bancroft family members Bob and Patricia Mate, who introduced the two organizations.

"The foundation's ongoing commitment to Bancroft is a testament to its confidence in us and strong belief in the value of our services," says Bancroft President Toni Pergolin. "We are most grateful for the Mates' support of this relationship, which has benefited the organization over the years in extraordinary ways."

In fact, our Cherry Hill facility, the Harry Lebensfeld Center, was funded largely by a grant from the foundation. That site houses our Brain Injury Day Treatment Services in one part of the building, and our Early Education Program in another, as well as Central Records. Most recently, the foundation has focused on building Bancroft's endowment -- the organization's nest egg for future needs.

This support shows how one family can make a tremendous difference for our organization. If you or your family is involved with a foundation or corporation that offers charitable giving programs, please contact our Development Office at (856) 348-1145.

The Harry Lebensfeld Foundation is financed by the estate of Harry Lebensfeld, the late chief executive of UIS Inc., a former auto-parts and candy conglomerate based in Jersey City, N.J. Prior to his death, Lebensfeld designated that his remaining assets transfer to the fund for the purpose of charitable giving.



## Medical students lend a helping

## hand

More than 50 medical students and others from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - School of Osteopathic Medicine spent a recent Saturday doing volunteer work at Bancroft's Judith B. Flicker Residences in Voorhees.

The first- and second-year students -- along with UMDNJ-SOM Alumni Association President Dr. Megan Riley and several other graduates -- landscaped flower beds and dug drainage ditches to help correct a chronic flooding problem on the property, which serves older adults with developmental disabilities or brain injuries.

The new trenches direct rain water, which would have run off the property, into lush gardens that need very little extra watering. With the dirt from the ditches, the group also created a "dry" garden that requires less water -- as the site has no sprinkler system.

"This group of volunteers worked so hard," says Deb Conner, Bancroft's manager of Volunteer Services. "One of the groups was digging up clay, rock, pieces of asphalt...it was not easy work. But they kept at it, jumping in to help where needed. It was a beautiful sight: teams of people working together toward a common goal, for the benefit of people they hadn't even met yet."

Flicker employee Linda Miller, coordinator of the landscaping project, was thrilled with the results. "The gardens are therapeutic as well as nurturing to the residents at Flicker," she says. "We are truly grateful for all the hard work by the UMDNJ group. I hope the students come back to walk the loop at Flicker and view what they have done with pride."

Miller seeks to host more volunteer groups this fall, to complete the gardens and other service projects.

*Thank you, UMDNJ!*



## Bancroft Night at Citizens Bank Park

As promised, here are more photos from Bancroft Night at the Phillies Game on July 23, courtesy of the Phillies' photographer. [Click here](#) and ENJOY!

### Families: Give instant feedback!

Whether it's a compliment or a complaint, we always want your feedback. Now there's a quick and easy way to comment immediately, without waiting for our annual family survey or a scheduled meeting.

Our new "Comment Card" is available at the link below and on Bancroft's website. In addition, hard copies can be picked up at Bancroft program and administrative sites.

Completed cards will be reviewed by our family advocate and shared with appropriate program leadership for follow-up. We hope this process will enhance our efforts to provide the highest quality services in a respectful and more timely manner.

We will continue conducting our annual family surveys, which cover more general feedback and reflect satisfaction levels over a long timeframe (typically one year). The Comment Cards will provide more timely feedback about issues that can be addressed right away, or positive comments that can be provided to staff members more promptly.

We appreciate your participation and support in all of our performance-improvement processes.

[Comment Card](#)



## Former Eagle to land at Butterfly Ball

*Above: A cardboard likeness of former Eagles player Ron Jaworski joins the Butterfly Ball committee at the group's recent meeting. Jaworski is dinner chair of this year's event. Shown seated from left: Kathy Wheatcroft, Barbara Berkman, Barbara Kanalstein, and Amy Haubenstein. Standing from left: Sherry Lee Bezzek, Jaime Lenchak, and Robin O'Malley. (Committee members not shown are Lisa Bean Alberts, Roz Belgin, Cynthia Boyer, Dianne Breining, Claudia Connolly, and Harriet Sharlin.)*

This year's Butterfly Ball promises plenty of fun, and a special treat for sports fans: Dinner will be hosted by Ron Jaworski, "Monday Night Football" analyst and beloved former Eagles player.

Scheduled for Friday October 22 at the Mount Laurel Westin, the Ball will also feature a cocktail reception, dancing to a live band, and a raffle with an EXTRA SPECIAL grand prize.

Watch for more information! For more details in the meantime, including sponsorship and ticket information, contact Kimberly Caputo at (856) 348-1145.

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## Researchers seek autism study participants

We've learned of an opportunity for families to participate in a research study, which will investigate a possible connection between language and behavioral functioning of children on the autism spectrum, and maternal stress and family functioning.

The study is being conducted by Abbie Connolly, a doctoral candidate in the Educational Psychology PhD program at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She hopes her study will help programs like Bancroft develop more effective coping strategies for parents and families of children on the autism spectrum.

Participating children should be ages 6 - 12 and diagnosed on the autism spectrum (with autism, Asperger's syndrome, or PDD-NOS) by a physician or licensed psychologist.

The study will require mothers to complete a series of well-known questionnaires and provide background information. (Technical issues preclude fathers, we're told.) The child's teacher will also need to complete a questionnaire. Connolly says there would be little intrusion in the child's daily life, and several steps will be taken to ensure the confidentiality of data.

If you are interested or know of another family that might be interested in participating, please [click here](#) for a flyer with additional information.

	<hr/> <h2>DDD Today</h2> <p>The August issue of DDD Today is now available. To access your copy, please <a href="#">click here</a>.</p> <p>Featured Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education &amp; Information Sessions for Families Begin in September</li><li>• Arc of US Survey</li><li>• ABCD workshop/curriculum on Aging and Disabilities</li><li>• Autism NJ Workshops</li><li>• Monmouth Co. Accessible Beach Guide</li></ul>
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