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In This Issue

[Joyful Noise sings at WHYY](#)

[Students visit local police and fire depts.](#)

[Inclusive daycare program opening soon](#)

[New senior director of nursing](#)

[View Bancroft's future on our new blog!](#)

[Free workshop on Asperger's disorder](#)

[Free resource fair on recreation](#)

[Water park plans two more 'special needs nights'](#)



Members of Joyful Noise performing at the WHYY studios in Philadelphia last week. For more photos from the event, [click here](#).

Joyful Noise sings at WHYY

The Joyful Noise choir performed last week at an advance screening of a PBS documentary, which will air on WHYY-TV on Feb. 1. The 35-member chorus consists of adults in Bancroft programs and others with disabilities.

Singing to a packed auditorium at the WHYY studios in Philadelphia, Joyful Noise enthusiastically set the mood for "For Once in My Life," a film about the people reaching their fullest potential through music.

The film follows the Spirit of Goodwill Band, a unique group of singers and musicians. It depicts their efforts to show the world the greatness - and killer soundtrack - within each of them.

To read more [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

**Friday,
February 11**
7:30-8:30 pm
**Bancroft School
Valentine Dance**
(Ages 13-21)
Location: Cooley Hall
Gym,
Haddonfield Campus
Contact: Dottie Walls
Phone: (856)524-7360

**Wednesday,
February 16**
6:30-8:30 pm
**Teaching Children
with Asperger's
Disorder in the Public
School Setting**
Location: Farrington

Students visit local police and fire depts.

A group of Bancroft School students enjoyed a recent field trip to Haddonfield's police and fire departments.

Conference Room,
Haddonfield Campus
Contact: Pat Reid
Phone: (856)524-7453
Email: preid@bnh.org

**Wednesday,
March 9**
6:30-8:30 pm
**Bullying from a Legal
Educational
Perspective**
*Bancroft Developmental
Disabilities Workshop
Series*
Location: Farrington
Conference Room,
Haddonfield Campus
Contact: Pat Reid
Phone: (856)524-7453
Email: preid@bnh.org

**Wednesday,
April 6**
6:30-8:30 pm
**Characteristics of
Autism Spectrum
Disorders**
*Bancroft Developmental
Disabilities Workshop
Series*
Location: Farrington
Conference Room,
Haddonfield Campus
Contact: Pat Reid
Phone: (856)524-7453
Email: preid@bnh.org

Friday, April 15
9:30 am to 12:00 pm
**The Bancroft School
Spring Show**
Location: Haddonfield
Memorial High School
auditorium
Contact: Dottie Walls
Phone: (856)524-7360

Friday, April 15
7:30-8:30 pm
**Bancroft School
Spring Dance**
(Ages 13 - 21)
Location: Cooley Hall
Gym,
Haddonfield Campus
Contact: Dottie Walls
Phone: (856)524-7360



At the Haddonfield (N.J.) Fire Department, from left: Fireman Jim, staff member Antonio Estrada, student Zachary Israel, a female student (name withheld), teacher Carol Bober, and student Eric Panetta.

station was cancelled - due to the arrival of a "guest" - the students were eager to learn more.

"One student asked if the 'guest' could leave and return after we depart," says Ms. Bober. "Officer Debbie could not stop laughing!"

Next stop was the Fire Department, where Fireman Jim and Captain Tim answered all questions - even telling a quick story with each response. The students were allowed to climb into the cabin of the pumper truck, where Fireman Jim explained the purposes of the many dials and hoses.

The students - members of the Vocational Food Service Career Preparation class - each received a D.A.R.E. activity packet from the police and a fire helmet from the firefighters.

In turn, the class expressed its appreciation by baking trays of desserts, which they presented to the officers and firefighters.

"This was a wonderful learning experience for all," says Mrs. Bober, "especially for those students who were afraid of our local community helpers. Those students

The day started at school, with a discussion of how each department helps the community and our school. Before leaving, teacher Carol Bober asked each student to write a question for each department on a large index card. "No two students had the same question," she says proudly.

At the Police Department, Officer Debbie answered students' questions and provided additional information. Although a planned tour of the

Wednesday, April 20
6:30-8:30 pm
**Medical Developments
in the Biology of
Autism**
*Bancroft Developmental
Disabilities Workshop
Series*
Location: Haddonfield
Campus Farrington
Conference Room
Contact: Pat Reid
Phone: (856)524-7453

now understand that these people are our friends, ready to help us when we need them."

Thank you, Haddonfield police and firefighters!

Inclusive daycare program opening soon

Bancroft will launch a new program in March, with the opening of our inclusive daycare center. The program will serve children with and without developmental challenges, from birth to age 7.

The Haddon Heights, N.J., center will fill an unmet need: it's the only daycare program locally that's designed for children with developmental issues, including autism. Many centers will not even accept children with such challenges.

Watch for more details, including a grand opening and open house in early March.

For more information, please call Pat Reid at (856) 524-7453 or email pried@bnh.org.

New senior director of nursing



Please join us in welcoming Regina Gentlesk Green, our new senior director of nursing.

Ms. Green is an advanced practice nurse with more than ten years of experience in the nursing field, specializing in mental health and neurological disabilities.

In her new role, Ms. Green will be responsible for nursing leadership across the organization, overseeing a staff of 50 nurses, nurse managers and nurse case managers.

"Regina has the expertise to coordinate both mental health and general health needs," says Caroline Eggerding, MD, Bancroft's chief medical officer. "And she has worked at Bancroft previously, so she understands the organization and the people we support."

Indeed, some of us know Ms. Green (née Gentlesk) from Bancroft's education and residential programs, where she provided direct care during the 1990s.

"I loved working here before, and I'm excited to be back," she says.

More recently, Ms. Green was a clinical nurse specialist for the University of Medicine and Dentistry at Ancora Psychiatric Hospital, and for the Center for Family Guidance.

She has also held numerous teaching positions, including adjunct clinical faculty positions at the University of Pennsylvania - where she received her master's degree in nursing - and at Thomas Jefferson University, where she earned her bachelor's in nursing.

Ms. Green holds nursing licenses in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, an advanced practice nurse license in New Jersey, and is a board-certified psychiatric/mental-health clinical nurse specialist.

To reach Ms. Green, call (856) 524-7426 or email rgreen@bnh.org.

View Bancroft's future on our new blog!

A major campaign recently began to transform Bancroft for the future - laying the groundwork for the most significant changes in our 128-year history.

Soon, you'll be able to get instant updates on these efforts, through Bancroft's new campaign blog.

The blog will include news about major donations, photos, and short, frequent updates on the campaign's three priorities:

- **Capital (facilities) improvements**, including renovation of our Mullica Hill Campus

- **Technology**, from assistive technology to electronic medical records
- **The Margaret Bancroft Annual Fund**, which meets a variety of ongoing needs

To register for our campaign blog - or for more information on *Transforming Our World | The Campaign for Bancroft* - simply email CampaignforBancroft@bnh.org. Or, call Linda Wasilchick, director of campaign operations, at (856) 348-4002.

Free workshop on Asperger's disorder

Bancroft will present a free workshop titled "Teaching children with Asperger's disorder in the public school setting" on Wed. **Feb. 16** in Haddonfield. Asperger's disorder is an autism-spectrum disorder.

This workshop will focus on the unique needs, challenges and rewards of teaching children with Asperger's disorder in an integrated or self-contained classroom. It will explore strategies to promote social skills and effective communication techniques, reduce sensory stimulation, increase desired behaviors and decrease inappropriate behaviors, develop a classroom management plan, and manage the learning environment and levels of reinforcement.

Designed for family members and professionals who support people with neurological disabilities, the workshop will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Farrington conference room on Bancroft's Haddonfield Campus. The session will be presented by Sharon Jurman, Bancroft's senior director of early childhood and outreach services.

For more information or to register, please call Pat Reid at (856) 524-7453 or email preid@bnh.org.

Free resource fair on recreation

A South Jersey organization will host its fifth Resource Fair of Recreation Programs for Individuals with Special Needs.

Wed. Feb. 16
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Katz Jewish Community Center
1301 Springdale Road
Cherry Hill, NJ 08033

Sponsored by the Katz JCC, this free event will provide information on South Jersey sports, travel and arts programs, as well as summer camps and other resources.

For more details, [click here.](#)

Water park plans two more 'special needs nights'

Sahara Sam's Oasis water park will hold its next Special Needs Nights on two Fridays from 6 to 9:30 pm: **Feb. 4** and **April 1**.

All water features will be open, except the indoor surfing simulator. The lights and sounds will be controlled, and guests with special dietary needs can bring their own snacks. A quiet room will also be available at the West Berlin, N.J., facility.

In the event of snow or illness, unredeemed tickets can be used for future dates.

To purchase tickets, [click here.](#)
To view a flyer, [click here.](#)



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