



The Family Buzz

Bancroft's Electronic Newsletter for Family Members

In This Issue

[Students, adults win at Special Olympics](#)

[Good Friday opportunity](#)

[Easter services](#)

[Bancroft Family Dinner Next Week](#)

[Important Message from DelArf for Delaware Families](#)

[Dr. Eggerding interviewed on autism](#)

[Bancroft video available "on demand"](#)

["Calling parties" raise funds \(and fun\) by phone](#)

[Stop the "R-word"](#)

[Bancroft book fair helps students & school](#)



Students, adults win at Special Olympics

Bancroft athletes are rocking the Special Olympics this season, with multiple victories in basketball and bowling.

First, a big round of applause goes to the Bancroft Bulldogs, The Bancroft School's basketball team, which won the state championship in their division in Wildwood two weekends ago. The Bulldogs trounced the competition, dominating by an average of 21 points in the 3 games. Way to go, Bulldogs!! The team would like to thank all the fans who came out to support them in Wildwood and throughout the season.

Kudos also goes to many adults served by Bancroft who enjoyed some big wins recently.

On the bowling front, Gary Zimmerman won a gold medal at the state-level Spring Sports Festival, held March 29 in Stratford, N.J.

Bringing home silver medals were Tom Braubitz, Eugene Fort

Upcoming Bancroft Events

**Bancroft Workshop:
Characteristics of Autism**

April 8, 2009

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Haddonfield Campus

(856) 429-5637, ext. 453

*(Thanks to the generosity of the
TD Charitable Foundation)*

Hoops 4 Heart

April 09, 2009

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bancroft School Gym

Haddonfield Campus

(856) 429-5637, ext. 285

**BI Workshop: Traumatic Brain
Injury in Adolescents and the
Development of Self-Concept**

April 15, 2009

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The Lebensfeld Building

Cherry Hill, NJ

(856) 429-5637, ext. 371

Family Council Dinner

April 16, 2009

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Bancroft School Gym

Haddonfield Campus

(856) 429-5637, ext. 279

**Bancroft NeuroHealth's
Seventh Inclusive Ministry
Workshop**

April 19, 2009

2:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Bancroft School Gym

Haddonfield Campus

(856) 429-5637, ext. 148

**Bancroft Workshop:
Introduction to Applied
Behavior Analysis**

April 22, 2009

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Haddonfield Campus

(856) 429-5637, ext. 453

*(Thanks to the generosity of the
TD Charitable Foundation)*

(pictured above), Deb Fox, and Michael Icovino, while three Bancroft bowlers earned bronze awards. One bowler came in fourth and another placed seventh, out of ten Bancroft bowlers - and dozens of others - who competed in the festival. In fact, 73 adults served by Bancroft took part in Special Olympics bowling this year.

Adult basketball finished well, too. Two adult teams both competed in the Sectional Basketball Competition on March 14 and 15 in Deptford. The Bancroft Stars "B" team took home a ribbon, while the "A" team won a silver medal - earning a spot in the state competition in Wildwood. There, the squad placed fourth in its division - and enjoyed a weekend of basketball and socializing at a dance in the convention center.

Congratulations to all of our Special Olympics athletes!

Good Friday opportunity

Grace Episcopal Church in Haddonfield will present a simplified version of The Way of the Cross, with easy-to-understand language and pictures. It will be held on Good Friday, April 10, at 2:30 p.m. in the church's auditorium at 19 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, N.J. If you plan to attend, please notify Sister Krista Mote of Bancroft's Inclusive Ministry Committee at (856) 429-5637, ext. 148.

Easter services

Easter services will be held at 11 a.m. in The Bancroft School gymnasium on the Haddonfield Campus. The Rev. Alvin Payne of the Word of Life Christian Fellowship invites all to attend: persons served and their families, Bancroft staff members and other friends.

Reminder: Bancroft Family Dinner Next Week

A quick reminder that the Family Council will be hosting a dinner meeting on Thursday, April 16th in the school gymnasium on the Haddonfield Campus for all Bancroft families. Come meet other family members and hear an organizational update from Toni Pergolin, President, which will include a brief report on our strategic planning efforts. In addition, we will also hear other important updates from Family Council members and Dr. Dan Keating, Family Advocate, on several family initiatives underway at this time.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to Sue Crouse at scrouse@bnh.org or by phone at (856) 429-5637, ext. 279. In addition, if you have difficulty attending this meeting due to the fact that the students are on spring break, please let us know when you RSVP, and we will see what we can do to support your attendance.

Scholastic Book Fair
April 23 - April 30, 2009
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Farrington Hall
Conference Room
Haddonfield Campus
(856) 429-5637, ext. 273

Bancroft School
Spring Show
April 24, 2009
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Bancroft School Gym
Haddonfield Campus
(856) 429-5637, ext. 152

Bancroft Volunteer
Appreciation Dinner
April 30, 2009
6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Bancroft School Gym
Haddonfield Campus
(856) 429-5637, ext. 273

Important Message from DelArf for Delaware Families

We have received word from the Delaware Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (DelArf) that there are serious concerns related to the State of Delaware's FY10 budget. According to DelArf, DHSS Secretary Rita Landgraf said on Monday that JFC (Joint Finance Committee of the House and Senate - those who shape the budget for the General Assembly) members have the budget numbers, and the Governor is now anticipating that the deficit will grow to \$800 million. Since his budget address in March, the Governor has continued to meet with various groups throughout the state. On two separate occasions he has stated or implied that ALL state contractors should expect a 10% reduction in their contracts.

Please contact your state representatives today! We need to communicate the message that funding for core services must be maintained for people with developmental disabilities. DelArf has provided "Talking Points" ([click here to download](#)) for you to use, as well as a sample letter ([click here to download](#)) for legislators. It is important that your letter be customized, since the legislators will want to hear from real people with real concerns. According to Connie Hughes, Executive Director of DelArf, in a message to members, "You must act now or you will be cut, and those you serve will suffer." Please take a few moments to send a letter. For further information, refer to <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mrv9k9cab.0.0.7n9pimcab.0&ts=S0393&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.delarf.org%2F&id=preview>.

Dr. Eggerding interviewed on autism

In honor of World Autism Day on April 2, Bancroft executive Dr. Caroline Eggerding spoke to a global audience on Family Radio, an Internet radio program provided through BlogTalkRadio.com.

Dr. Eggerding discussed a variety of autism-related topics, including possible causes, early symptoms, treatment options and even tips for family travel.

She was interviewed by the executive editor of two California periodicals - OC Family Magazine and Inland Empire Family Magazine - which together reach 300,000 readers. The radio show is produced by the magazine publisher.

[Click here to hear the interview.](#)

Bancroft video available "on demand"

Our new corporate video, Faces of Bancroft, can now be seen via on-demand cable TV, thanks to the efforts of our supporters at Comcast. To view the video, choose "Local" in the On Demand listing, and follow prompts to Faces of Bancroft. The video can also be accessed on the homepage of Bancroft's website: <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mrv9k9cab.0.0.7n9pimcab.0&ts=S0393&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bancroftneurohealth.org%2F&id=preview>.

[Click here to view the video.](#)

"Calling parties" raise funds (and fun) by phone

When parents Frank and Laurie Rohrman came to Bancroft's first "Calling Party" last month, they hoped to motivate others to give to the organization. But after an evening spent phoning fellow family members and donors, the couple themselves came away inspired.

"I did not expect how much I would be affected by the experience," says Frank Rohrman, who with wife Laurie sits on the organization's Pediatric and Adolescent Advisory Committee. "I [said] that I was so moved, I was going to go home and make a donation online, and I did just that."

Laurie Rohrman was impressed by the many upbeat responses she received. "I thought I would mostly wind up leaving messages on people's answering machines, but I kept getting people who wanted to talk to me about how much they liked Bancroft."

Such positive feedback was highly motivating - spurring the Rohrman's to work the phones for three solid hours. "I could not believe how many calls they made!" enthuses Michael McLaughlin, Bancroft's director of annual gifts.

Bancroft's Calling Parties are designed to increase donations from the latest fund-raising appeal, McLaughlin explains. "We put together a list of people who gave unrestricted gifts in the past, but who have not yet given this year."

McLaughlin's team provides the volunteer callers with talking points, so they're prepared to speak on Bancroft's behalf. And it's not called a "party" for nothing: Refreshments and raffle prizes help spark the fun.

The next Calling Party is tentatively planned for mid- to late May. To volunteer or learn more, contact McLaughlin at mmclaughlin@bnh.org or (856) 348-1171.

Stop the "R-word"

A national effort aims to halt the use of the derogatory term "retard."

The "Spread the Word to End the Word" campaign is raising society's consciousness about the dehumanizing and painful effects of this word, and urging everyone to stop using it - whether or not an insult is intended.

[Click here to take the pledge now!](#)

Bancroft book fair helps students & school Volunteers needed

Bancroft's Scholastic Book Fair will help put books in our classrooms, as well as in the hands of our students, families and staff members. But to host a successful fair, we need lots of helping hands!

If you can volunteer during any of the book-fair hours, please contact Deb Conner, manager of volunteer services, at (856) 429-5637, ext. 273, or dconner@bnh.org.

The fair will be held **April 23 - 30** from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in Farrington Hall on the Haddonfield Campus.

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