



# The Family Buzz

Bancroft's Electronic Newsletter for Family Members

## In This Issue

[Announcing a new addition to our family](#)

[Golf Tourney coming - one week left to register](#)

[Autism workshop now on website](#)

[Join TEAM Bancroft and walk for autism research](#)

[Calling all Bancroft supporters](#)

[Bancroft welcomes new corporate partners](#)

['Bancroft Idol'... a talented fund-raiser](#)

[People of Praise prayer service](#)

[New ministry forming](#)

[In celebration of Father's Day](#)



*Russell Fried and Joe Rivera were honored by the New Jersey Association of Community Providers recently as Community Stars. Pictured above with Bancroft President, Toni Pergolin, are Russell Fried (left) and Joe Rivera. Watch for further coverage in our upcoming **Bancroft NeuroHealth Report** newsletter.*

## Announcing a new addition to our family!

We look forward to welcoming the Walker Center into the Bancroft family of programs in the next few months. The Philadelphia-area program serves adults with disabilities.

This acquisition is in line with our strategic planning initiatives, which are designed to ensure our future and continuity of services while we weather current and future "storms." Financial stability is critical to our success, and in these days of cutbacks and insufficient funding, we must find new ways to enhance that stability. One way is to grow revenue by increasing our census, as the Walker Center enables us to do. Another benefit of this acquisition is that we were able to acquire the program at no cost. It is simply a takeover of the center's operations.

The Walker Center serves 24 adults with developmental disabilities

## Upcoming Bancroft Events

Bancroft School Prom  
May 31, 2009  
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Merion House  
507 S. Kings Highway  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
(856) 429-5637, ext. 356

Golf Tournament  
& Auction Dinner  
June 1, 2009  
Tavistock Country Club  
Woodcrest Country Club  
(856) 348-1164

Bancroft Opera  
"For the love of Mummy"  
June 1, 2009  
10 a.m.  
June 4, 2009  
7 p.m.  
Ritz Theater  
Oaklyn, NJ

Staff Festival  
June 3, 2009  
12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Haddonfield Campus  
(856) 348-1199

Mullica Hill Parent Advisory  
Committee Meeting  
June 5, 2009  
1 p.m.  
Mullica Hill Campus  
(856) 769-1300

Bancroft Family  
"Calling Parties"  
June 9 - 11 and  
June 16 - 18  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
(856) 348-1171

Staff Festival: Mullica Hill  
June 10, 2009  
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Mullica Hill Campus  
(856) 348-1199

The Bancroft School at

in community-based residential programs, including respite and in-home support. It has seven group homes and four apartments in the Lower Merion and Wynnefield, Pa., area. Its mission is similar to ours, which is to help individuals with neurological and related disabilities lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

Clair Rohrer, senior director of our Flicker, Brick and Delaware programs, will serve as our liaison to help integrate the program into Bancroft. She will work closely with its senior director to support the program during the transition period. Clair is a very dedicated, highly skilled, and a longtime Bancroft staff member, and we are confident she will ensure a smooth and successful transition.

We will share more in the coming weeks as the transition proceeds. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Steve Bruce at [sbruce@bnh.org](mailto:sbruce@bnh.org) or (856) 429-5637, ext. 239.

## Golf Tourney coming - one week left to register!

Our 26th annual Golf Tournament and Auction Dinner will be held Monday **June 1**. But to get in on the fun, we really need to hear from you by Thursday, **May 28**!

We hope Bancroft families will come out in force to support this important fund-raiser, and help spread the word!

This year's event takes place at two different courses: Tavistock Country Club near Haddonfield and Woodcrest Country Club in Cherry Hill. Golfers will receive lunch and dinner during the tournament. An 11:30 a.m. shotgun start is scheduled for golfers playing at Woodcrest and a noon shotgun start is scheduled at Tavistock.

Both courses will feature three contests - closest-to-the-pin, longest drive, and hole-in-one - each on a different hole and offering special prizes. This year's hole-in-one contest has a \$10,000 cash prize.

Other event highlights include both live and silent auctions, and celebrity auctioneers: former Philadelphia Eagles player Ken Dunek, and comedian Joe Conklin, "Man of a Thousand Voices."

Auction items include: tickets and limo service to see Live! With Regis and Kelly in New York; Eagles vs. Giants tickets for Sunday, December 13; autographed sports memorabilia; tickets in a Phillies Club Box for four (includes open bar and food). Also this year, Drs. Bernie Pekala and Don Praiss will donate a twosome to join them for a day of golf at Tavistock. (Dr. Praiss has been a Golf Committee member since its inception 26 years ago!)

Voorhees Pediatric Facility:  
School Dance/Prom  
June 12, 2009  
3:00 p.m.  
1304 Laurel Oak Road  
Voorhees, NJ  
(856) 566-0634

Walk NOW for Autism  
June 13, 2009  
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Bishops Gate  
Corporate Center  
Mt. Laurel, NJ  
(856) 429-5637, ext. 273

Bancroft School  
Secondary Graduation  
June 15, 2009  
7 p.m.  
Haddonfield High  
School Auditorium  
Haddonfield, NJ

Bancroft School  
Elementary Graduation  
June 17, 2009  
1 p.m.  
Cooly Hall  
Haddonfield Campus

Senior Graduation  
June 17, 2009  
3:00 p.m.  
The Bancroft School at  
Voorhees Pediatric Facility  
1304 Laurel Oak Road  
Voorhees, NJ  
(856) 566-0634

Bancroft Idol  
June 19, 2009  
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Moose Lodge  
Lindenwold, NJ  
(856) 651-9510, ext. 102

Along with an enjoyable evening, the tournament will include a Raffle Extravaganza, with a grand prize of a \$1,000 Visa gift card. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold (each for \$10), with the winning ticket to be drawn that evening. (You do not need to be present to win.)

There's not much time left to make your reservation for golf and/or to join us for the evening events. Please contact Heidi Rixman at (856) 348-1164 or [hrixman@bnh.org](mailto:hrixman@bnh.org) by Thursday, **May 28**, for a "hole lot of fun!"

## Autism workshop now on website

If you missed our recent workshop on the Characteristics of Autism, you can now watch it online! View the April presentation by Sharon Jurman, Bancroft's senior director of Early Childhood and Outreach Services, at [www.bancroftneurohealth.org](http://www.bancroftneurohealth.org). There, you can also view a written copy of the presentation.

[Click here to view video directly](#)

## Join TEAM Bancroft and walk for autism research!

TEAM Bancroft is coming together again this year to support Autism Speaks in its goal "to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders." Our hope is that staff, family members and persons we serve from across the organization will walk together to raise funds for autism research and raise public awareness about autism and its effects on individuals, families and society.

**When:** Saturday, June 13th  
8 a.m. registration  
10 a.m. walk start

**Where:** Bishops Gate Corporate Center  
3000 Leadenhall Road  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

### To register:

[walknowforautism.org/southernnewjersey](http://walknowforautism.org/southernnewjersey) (See detailed instructions below for online registration.) or contact Deb Conner: [dconner@bnh.org](mailto:dconner@bnh.org) or 856-429-5637, ext. 273

All who register **before May 31** will receive a TEAM Bancroft shirt! So... sign up **NOW!**

### To register online:

1. Go to: [walknowforautism.org/southernnewjersey](http://walknowforautism.org/southernnewjersey)
2. Click "REGISTER" on tool bar at the top of the page
3. Click "I AGREE" when box comes up with waiver
4. 2nd option, click: "JOIN A TEAM"
5. Select a team... If you know Team Name...Click "SEARCH" button
6. Scroll down to Bancroft... Click Bancroft
7. "Welcome to Our TEAM" will come up and you will need to agree to waiver again
8. Fill out appropriate information
9. There will be a link to set up a personal page. Do that now. You will not be able to go back later and set it up. This way your friends and family can go directly to your personal page to sponsor you!

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## Calling all Bancroft supporters!

### Help us reach out to other families by phone - and have fun doing it!

Our next Development "Calling Parties" will be held **June 9 - 11 and June 16 - 18**, and we are looking for volunteers from **6 to 9 p.m.** each evening. Volunteers will be calling other families to follow-up on a recent mailing to appeal for unrestricted donations, which are needed to support every Bancroft program.

Who better than Bancroft family members can communicate the importance of supporting Bancroft's mission to others?

We will provide the phones, a calling list, and talking points for you to use as you call other families of children or adults at Bancroft. These are NOT COLD CALLS. Our Development staff will be available to help you with any questions you or your callers may have. And, feel free to bring your own "rolodex" of friends and family you may want to ask to help.

We will provide pizza and refreshments to keep our callers pumped up. We will also have prize drawings!

These calls will make a huge difference in the success of our annual unrestricted campaign. Please let us know as soon as possible, if you can join us. Please contact Michael McLaughlin in the Development Office at (856) 348-1171.

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## Bancroft welcomes new corporate partners

Endo Pharmaceuticals and New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company support Bancroft's Annual Fund and have joined our Corporate Partners Program.

Endo Pharmaceuticals, based in Chadds Ford, Pa., is a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the research, development, sale and marketing of branded and generic prescription pharmaceuticals used primarily to treat and manage pain. Endo's corporate giving philosophy combines grassroots employee involvement with strong organizational support. Bancroft welcomes Endo as a Corporate Partner and looks forward to working with their dedicated corporate volunteers. In fact, a "Day of Caring" service project is being scheduled for two Delaware group homes this spring.

New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company (NJM) and its subsidiaries offer a variety of property/casualty insurance products, including personal automobile and homeowners insurance primarily in New Jersey. Formed in 1913 by factory owners who wanted to purchase insurance from a reliable, local, safety-oriented carrier, the company has earned a reputation for efficiency and integrity. Like Bancroft, NJM has been a committed leader in the community and in their industry for over a century. NJM says it's proud to support Bancroft in honor of 125 years of service.

If you would like more information about Bancroft's Corporate Partners Program, please contact Erin Morales in the Development Office at (856) 348-1145 or [emorales@bnh.org](mailto:emorales@bnh.org).

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## 'Bancroft Idol'... a talented fund-raiser

Mark your calendar for our first-ever Bancroft Idol, which will be held on Friday, **June 19**, at 7 p.m. at the Lindenwold Moose Lodge (2425 White Horse Pike/Rt. 30, Lindenwold, NJ). A group of staff are planning this fund-raiser for Bancroft, which promises to be a most enjoyable evening. Winners will be chosen by audience members, who will cast votes through the purchase of voting tickets. For more information, contact Mike Pierce at the Flicker Center at (856) 651-9510, ext. 102, or e-mail [mpierce@bnh.org](mailto:mpierce@bnh.org). Proceeds will benefit Bancroft programs.

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## People of Praise prayer service

The People of Praise Prayer Service offers people with developmental disabilities a place to share the gifts of faith and prayer and strengthen their relationships with God and each other. Join their gathering in the chapel and enjoy refreshments on Wednesday, **May 20th** at 5:30 p.m. The gathering will be held at St. John of God Community Services, Building A, 1145 Delsea Drive, Westville, NJ. RSVP to Sister Kathy McShane at (856) 848-4700, ext. 174, or e-mail [kmcshane@sjogcs.org](mailto:kmcshane@sjogcs.org).

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## New ministry forming

Martin Luther Chapel in Pennsauken, NJ, is starting a new ministry designed to address the spiritual needs of families affected by mental disorders. GodSPEACS (God Seeks People Across the Spectrum) will provide a weekly opportunity to gather with others who understand what it means to have special needs or to care for those who do. In fact, the idea for this ministry came from a mother who has two children enrolled in Bancroft, and who wants to minister to other families in similar situations.

If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Pastor Jeremy Shears by e-mail at [jeremyshears@verizon.net](mailto:jeremyshears@verizon.net); or call Sue Johnson at the church office at (856) 665-0116.

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## In celebration of Father's Day

The New Jersey Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) is sponsoring a lunchtime conference call on Thursday, **June 18**, featuring a special Father's Day panel. Panelists are all fathers who will share their personal experiences and their work in helping others who have children with special needs. They will also facilitate an open discussion about the important issues facing fathers today. The call is scheduled from 12 to 1 p.m. Panelists are:

- Dr. Robert Naseef, a psychologist in independent practice in Philadelphia and a consultant to numerous schools and human service organizations, who has a special interest and expertise in the psychology of men and fatherhood. He serves on the Advisory Board for Variety, the children's charity.
- Dr. Ricky Braff, board president of Family Support Organization (FSO) of Hunterdon/Somerset/Warren

Counties, which serves families that have children with emotional, behavioral and mental-health challenges.

- Bill Parker, president and CEO of Special Planning LLC, a division of Grandview Asset Management, which provides estate planning and financial guidance to families of individuals with special needs.
- Andre Faust, a former Philadelphia Flyer and a parent who advocates passionately for his son.

To participate in the conference call, please register by calling 800-654-SPAN, ext. 116. If you cannot participate on June 18, register and SPAN will send you the information to listen to the recording at your convenience.

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