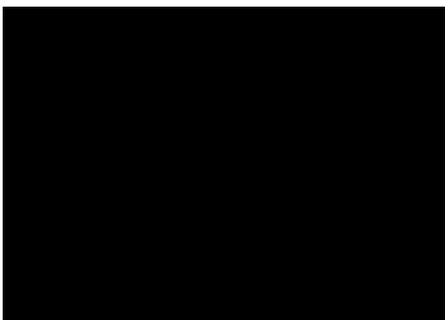


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## **Loretta Claiborne— Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker**

As one of the most celebrated Special Olympic athletes, Loretta Claiborne has dedicated her life to showing that people who have developmental disabilities are uniquely talented but too often overlooked and ignored. Despite being born partially blind with a mild intellectual disability and unable to walk or talk until age 4, she eventually untapped tremendous athletic and public speaking talents which she used to overcome adversity to become a world-class, award-winning athlete and motivational speaker.

In her career, Ms. Claiborne has crossed the finish line of 26 marathons, twice placing among the top 100 women in the Boston Marathon. A competitor in seven International Special Olympics World Games in three different sports (distance running, bowling, and figure skating), Ms. Claiborne received the 1996 ESPY Arthur Ashe Award for Courage from ESPN. She is inducted



Loretta Claiborne with NYSARC, Inc. President Katharine Wilson Conroy.

*Photo by Bob Haggard*

*(Continued on page 7)*

## **Friends of the Arc**

*By Ron Van Ormer*

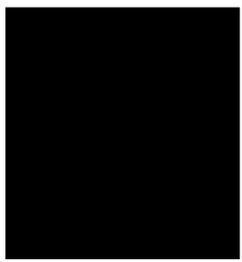
**W**alter and Linda Carl are a true inspiration and embody the words commitment, compassion, and leadership. They have been a part of The Arc family since 1983 when Linda started working as the Administrative Assistant. Before then Walter served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged after four years of active service. It was while living in Washington, D.C. that he met his future wife Linda Elias. Linda was working for Admiral Hyman Rickover, the father of the nuclear navy, as his personal aide in Washington.

After Walter and Linda married, they settled into family life back in Hammondspport and have been there ever since. They established J.S. Hubbs Bed & Breakfast in the house where Walter grew up and they own Park View Wines & Spirits in Hammondspport. Linda left The Arc of Steuben in 1999 to enjoy retirement with her husband. Walter and Linda, however, did not forget The Arc. They have been giving financially to The Arc since 1983. They have also served countless hours volunteering at events, for committees, and opening their home for meetings. Linda found out she is not the retiring type and actively rejoined The Arc in 2000 as a board member.

Last year Walter and Linda's generosity exceeded The Arc's greatest expectations by being the first donors to reach the Sirius donor recognition level. I am sure if you asked them in 1983 to strive to meet this challenge over the next 25 years, you would have received at least a doubtful glance. But that is exactly what ended up happening within 23 years and their commitment to supporting people with developmental and intellectual disabilities continues to grow.

Walter and Linda recently decided to make a significant financial commitment to the Together We Soar capital campaign. This will help to build the new Education and Training Center. We are very excited to work with them on creating a state-of-the-art center that will support The Arc's constituents and further advance the agency's vision, mission and values. Saying thank you does not seem like enough, but that is all that they ask for in return—Thank you, Walter and Linda.

## Message from the Board President . . .



Art Stilwell

It has been my privilege to serve as President of The Arc of Steuben for the past three years. We have an excellent Board of Directors, an outstanding Executive Director and a super group of associates. All of these individuals have made it easy for me to carry out the duties of president.

Three years ago, we were in an excellent position to serve the people who have need of our many programs. I feel strongly that The Arc of Steuben is in the best shape ever! I am confident that we will continue to be the premiere agency in the state.

Thanks to all of the many individuals who make The Arc of Steuben what it is today.

Sincerely,  
Art Stilwell

## Executive Director's Message . . .

### "The Power of Green"



Bernie Burns

Most of our members are aware that we are in the process of expanding our building in the Industrial Park so as to consolidate our offices and improve our provision of services. But did you know the building is going to be "Green"? Not the color, but a highly energy efficient and environmentally sound building.

With all of the talk about green house gases and global warming, The Arc of Steuben is doing something kind for our environment. The building has been designed as a highly energy efficient facility using the LEED® criteria. Once construction is complete, the national organization *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design* (LEED®) will evaluate the building and certify it as energy efficient. This certification will come with incentives, as well as the knowledge that The Arc is an environmentally responsible neighbor.

One particularly notable part of LEED® is the use of materials that have been manufactured locally. Using steel that was made in New York instead of China minimizes the energy needed to get it to the job site. While this may increase the costs somewhat, the estimated savings of over \$15,000 a year in energy costs will more than make up for it.

So while it may not be easy being green, the benefits far out weigh the costs. Studies have proven time and again that environmentally healthy workplaces have less absenteeism and increased productivity and efficiency.

Cost savings, a contribution to the local economy, a healthier work force, and environmental responsibility all add up to a win-win situation for all.

## Steuben Arc Foundation Challenges Donors

*By Ron Van Ormer*

The Steuben Arc Foundation is committing \$20,000 toward a challenge grant to support the Together We Soar capital campaign. The Foundation will match campaign donations dollar for dollar.

The Steuben Arc Foundation was established in 1997 to help developmentally disabled individuals or the Arc of Steuben agency achieve their dreams and goals by funding opportunities that do not qualify under their plans. The Foundation has approved grants to assist Special Olympics athletes and disability advocates with travel expenses, provided funds to support art projects, to purchase education and training equipment, and support vocational programs.

Here is an excellent way to double your donation. Please give generously and support this challenge by the Steuben Arc Foundation.

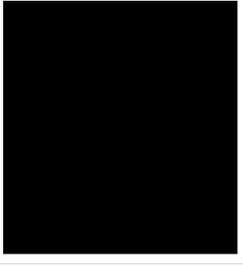
### The Arc of Steuben, a chapter of NYSARC, Inc.

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Volume 43, Summer Issue



# Together We Soar

## The Capital Campaign To Bring Us All Together

### Campaign Notes

*by Ron Van Ormer*

The campaign reached another milestone in April when Walter & Linda Carl made a significant financial commitment to help build the new training and education center. The training and education center will be a state-of-the-art facility designed to support the goals of developmentally and intellectually disabled individuals, Arc staff, and will be available to community organizations needing meeting space.

In other news the entire building and renovation project has been opened for bidding. It is expected that construction on the certified Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design™ building will begin in July. The target for occupying the new building is early 2008.

To schedule a personal appointment to discuss the campaign or to have your questions answered please contact Ron Van Ormer at (607) 776-4146 Ext. 123 or email him at [rvanormer@arcofsteuben.org](mailto:rvanormer@arcofsteuben.org).

### Together We Soar donors, thank you for making our community a better place!

#### \$100,000 or more

Anonymous  
CCAP

Oscar & Ann Marie Mayes  
Art Stilwell  
NYSEG

Don & Melanie Koseba  
Alfred & Margaret Martabano  
Richard & Linda Mullen  
Susan Pryor

#### \$50,000-\$99,999

Walter & Linda Carl

#### \$1,000-\$4,999

Gerry Archibald  
Bernie & Kathy Burns  
Scott & Stephanie Craig  
The Reverend Sandra & Crocker  
Curtis

Mario & Mary Lou Quintal  
Robert & Darla Roote  
Sprague Insurance Company  
Mischelle & Stephen Shattuck  
Robert & Elizabeth Turissini  
Ron & Kristin Van Ormer  
Volunteer Ambulance Corp of Bath  
Betsy Ann Welles  
Wilkins RV

#### \$25,000-\$49,999

Corning Incorporated Foundation

Don & Pat Evia  
Alice Flaitz  
Five Star National Bank  
Luanne Graulich  
Patrick & Tammy Harvey  
Karen Hopkins  
The Hon. Amo & Priscilla

#### \$1-\$999

Karen & Tom Andrus  
Arc of Steuben Picnic Raffle  
James & Mary Kay Beaver  
Kimberly Beebe  
Johanne Begeron  
Linda Berlin  
William & Mary Biggee  
Richard & Mary Bondi  
Cindy Brown

#### \$10,000-\$24,999

Dr. Robert & JoAnn Cole  
Peter & Connie Manikas  
J.M. McDonald Foundation  
Karen Meriwether & Tom Snow  
Edith Saxton

Houghton  
Incredible Angels  
International Order of the Odd  
Fellows #251  
The Rebecah's  
Jean & John Jensen  
William & Melissa Joint  
Kathie Kent

#### \$5,000-\$9,999

Anaconda Sports  
Bethesda Foundation  
Bonadio & Associates  
Chemung Canal Trust Company  
Robert & Robin Gaige  
Paul & Vivian Greenfield Family  
The Gunlocke Company

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

Eric & Laura Buisch  
Desiree Bulkley  
Robert, Joseph & Colleen Burns  
Lanny & Mary Burns  
Eleanor Burns  
Scott & Judy Campbell  
Thomas Campbell  
John & Debra Chase  
Coach Equipment & Manufacturing  
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Pleasant Valley Office Associates  
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Keith & Dody Putman  
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Maria A. Quintal  
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Joe & Rose Rago  
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Shawn Rice  
Stacey Rodburn  
Dave & Karen Rombach  
Sharon Saker  
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Pamela & Theodore Schoonmaker  
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Joy Shannon

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Steuben Trust Company  
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John & Conny Tears  
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Alexander Wahlig  
Chris Wallace  
Jodi Webster  
Barb Welch  
Penny Whitford  
Donald & Carol Whitehead  
Rae Ann Widmer-Mason  
Clarence Willey & Barbara Gibson  
Richard & Deirdre Wright  
Tim Wright

In Memoriam

Carolyn Campbell  
Kathleen Deibler  
Nancy Duke  
E. Jean Flemming  
Dr. & Mrs. Frederic Joint  
Richard Wheat  
Jeanie Wolverton

In Honor of

Bob & Sharon Heffner

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*Together We Soar ... The Capital Campaign To Bring Us All Together!*

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## The Arc of Steuben Awards Presented

The Arc of Steuben held its 2007 Annual Meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Hotel in Corning. The evening was a huge success, with keynote speaker Loretta Claiborne and NYSARC, Inc. president Katharine Wilson Conroy in attendance, along with more than 300 Arc friends and family. Our special thanks to Dr. Konstantin Frank's Vinifera Wine Cellars for the wine they donated for this special event. One of the highlights of the annual meeting is always the awards presentation and this year was no exception. People and companies honored this year included:

**Associate of the Year—Jamie Lehman.** Please see Jamie's story on page 1.

**Joan McNamara Memorial Award—Michael (Mike ) Henry.** Mike was the first winner of this award which Joan's family has established to honor her memory and to recognize an individual who best displays commitment to self-development through learning and utilizing new skills.

**Elias-Hubbs Memorial Achievement Awards—Michael (Mike) Henry, Jason Wheaton, Fred Wood, and Jamison (Jamie) Kratzer.** This award is given quarterly to one individual we serve who has made outstanding achievements and overcome tough obstacles in order to realize a personal goal.

**Honor Grace Awards—Linda Palmer, Ted Perry, Julie Grey, and Frank Lange.** This award was established by a board member to honor individuals who demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics: perseverance, grace under difficult circumstances, outstanding character, acting with honor, demonstrating kindness.

**Friends of The Arc—Dick and Barb Green.** While an associate at The Arc of Steuben, Dick Green worked hard to ensure maximum productivity for a number of Arc of Steuben workers. Since his retirement in 2003, Dick and his wife Barb have become the driving force behind donations given by area civic groups and clubs. They work tirelessly to raise donations for the workers' annual summer picnic and holiday party. They make sure all attendees have the opportunity to participate in the fun and win prizes. Dick also makes frequent visits to the Arc workfloor, checking on any help he might give. For supporting our individuals and bringing them so much happiness, we honored them as Friends of the Arc.

**Friend of The Arc—Sue Walker.** Sue was selected as a Friend of The Arc for her continued dedication to the ideals of education. She has volunteered her time providing educational skills for the Continuing Education program. She works one-on-one with people at the Wayland residence, teaching math, computer skills, and vocabulary and language skills. More than just a teacher, Sue's encouragement and friendliness lead to warm friendships with her students. Sue's belief that education is the path to realizing goals is one reason she was honored as a Friend of the Arc.

**Friend of The Arc—Beth Milewski.** Beth became a good friend to the Arc when she casually inquired what a neighbor—who was an Arc associate—did for a living. Inspired by our mission and vision, she began volunteering for Special Olympics, bringing her own brand of charm to the special event. She served as wedding photographer for two individuals, took photos for people to give as holiday gifts, and continually offered her sincere friendship and unconditional support, particularly to the people who live at Oaklawn and in the Supportive Apartments. Beth recognizes that extending a hand in friendship helps achieve healthier attitudes, broader understanding, and greater individual success.

**Friends of The Arc—Mercury Aircraft.** A strong economic force in Steuben County, Mercury Aircraft has been an important customer of The Arc of Steuben for many years. We value their business and economic support, but more important, we appreciate the many acts of kindness they have shown. Always willing to lend a hand, they have provided forklift training to our individuals who want jobs in the community, repaired our equipment and lent us theirs in an emergency, moved trailers to new locations, and made much-needed fixtures. They even transported our Empire State Games apparel order to Westchester County when we were unable to. Their help is pro bono, and their friendship is real. For believing in us and in the people we serve, we honored them as Friends of The Arc.

Lynn Keeler accepted for Mercury Aircraft.

Photo by Bob Haggard

**Friends of The Arc—Maple City Bowl.** Bowling is one of the most popular recreational activities available to the people we serve. Maple City Bowl in Hornell recognizes this and gives their generous support in making this activity

Jim Testani accepted for Maple City Bowl.

Photo by Bob Haggard  
(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

available. Owner Jim Testani and his staff make the Tuesday bowling league a great experience for the participants. They know each person by name and treat the league no differently than any other—a true compliment. Maple City Bowl understands our belief that participation in any activity should never be limited to certain groups—that when all are included, all benefit. For their enthusiasm and support, we honored them as Friends of The Arc.

**Vendor of the Year—Xpedx.** Xpedx is our vendor of choice for offset printing materials. Our great business relationship has grown through the years based on Xpedx’s excellent customer service. They deliver on a daily basis as needed. They offer excellent rates; they return phone calls promptly; and they meet our needs with efficiency and friendliness. The Arc of Steuben is a business, and like any business, we appreciate prompt attention to our needs. Xpedx provides that attention. For making the Arc part of the Xpedx family, we honored them as Vendor of the Year.

John White (rt.) accepted Vendor of the Year award for Xpedx.

Photo by Bob Haggard

**Customer of the Year—Pleasant Valley Winery.** Pleasant Valley Winery in Hammondsport has been a working partner with The Arc of Steuben for many years, welcoming our individuals to their facility to work alongside winery employees. Arc workers assist in the packaging of holiday champagne, help man the bottling lines, and give added support during periodic production crunches. Pleasant Valley Winery’s interest in The Arc of Steuben extends to telling others of the quality work we do. We are very grateful for their support.

**Employer of the Year—AVI Foodsystems, Alfred University.** Steuben Placement Services nominated AVI Foodsystems as one of our Employers of the Year for their commitment to hiring our talented individuals. A dedicated and valuable business partner, AVI made accommodations for the application process, on-site job coaching, transportation issues, and work schedules, thereby contributing to the success of the people served by the Arc of Steuben. AVI plays a key role in meeting our mission.

John Dietrich (rt.) accepted award for AVI Foodsystems.

Photo by Bob Haggard

**Employer of the Year—Wal-Mart Supercenter, Painted Post.** Wal-Mart has proven to be a dedicated and valuable business partner with Steuben Placement Services. Through their commitment and dedication, we have successfully placed six employees. Hired as temporary help for the store’s remodeling project, the individuals were invited to stay on as permanent employees when the job was completed. The Wal-Mart management team has been accommodating and helpful, playing a key role in assisting Steuben Placement Services with our agency-wide mission. For helping us to move forward with our mission, we honored them as an Employer of the Year.

Accepting for Wal-Mart was Kathy Confer.

Photo by Bob Haggard

**Visit The Arc of Steuben's Website at**

**[www.arcofsteuben.org](http://www.arcofsteuben.org)**

## **Elias-Hubbs Award**

*(The Elias-Hubbs Memorial Achievement Recognition Award is given quarterly to a person we serve who has made outstanding achievements or overcome tough obstacles to realize a personal goal.)*

The associates of Pinney Road have nominated James Brown for the Elias-Hubbs Memorial Achievement Recognition Award because of the positive influence and help that he gives to not only his present housemates but our new housemate. James has gone out of his way to reassure that our newest member to Pinney Road is welcome and cared for by all. James has established a good relationship with him and has given this individual something that we all need—a friend!

## Associate of the Year—Jamie Lehman!

Without a doubt, the most heavily guarded secret of The Arc of Steuben's annual meeting each year is the announcement of Associate of the Year Award. The nominees are selected from among the twelve associates of the month of the previous year, as well as additional nominations.

As always, we had a very difficult time this year in choosing because all of the nominees were very deserving. Jamie Lehman's nomination indicates many of the reasons she was selected Associate of the Year:

"This Arc of Steuben associate is an extraordinary individual. She is energetic, honest, reliable, caring and dependable. When she is at work she is "at work". When she comes into work she reads the necessary documentation to keep her informed as to what is happening within the household. She then prepares for the individuals' arrival home from day program. The snacks and drinks are prepared, she tidies the home, ensures laundry is going or put away, the rooms are stocked with supplies and any other duty that may need completing. She takes pride in how the home looks to ensure the comfort of those that live here.

"She is also one that can be relied on to follow up with the medical needs and issues facing the people that live in the home. She carries out her duties with confidence and accuracy.

"One saying that is taught to us that work in this field is to 'know your people'. Most recently she proved to all of us just how well she has gotten to 'know her people'.

"While bathing one of the residents of the home she thought she felt an unusual 'lump' and immediately reported her findings to the nursing staff and properly documented the findings. The individual has been followed up by his primary physician and subsequently followed up by a specialist. The primary MD even commented that this was a 'good catch'. Jamie's timely notification of what may have seemed a minor detail will ensure the best medical care for this individual.

"Not only is she a great asset to her team at East Main Street, she is a loving caring daughter. Her father was involved in a serious car accident over a year ago and is being cared for in a facility in Rochester NY. She has been juggling her work schedule and visiting her father with what seems like ease, driving her mother (who is also an Arc associate) up to the city for a visit almost daily and then returning home to come to work. On top of all of this, she recently enrolled in school full time to become an LPN. Her hopes are to move further along with her career at The Arc. Her dedication spills over into her workday. We are honored to have her as part of The Arc of Steuben family."

(Continued from page 1)

into the Women in Sports Hall of Fame and the Special Olympics Pennsylvania and International Halls of Fame and many other notable honors.

Beyond her athletic and public speaking accomplishments, Ms. Claiborne holds a black belt in karate; is able to converse in four languages; is fluent in sign language; and has been conferred honorary doctorate degrees in Humane Letters from both Quinnipiac University and Villanova University. She is the title subject of a Disney movie originally broadcast on ABC-TV and has made guest appearances on the Oprah Winfrey Show.

And now, Ms. Claiborne's uplifting life story is chronicled in the text, *In Her Stride*, one of the featured titles in the new WorldScapes literacy series for grades 3-6. It is currently available to schools or others through ETA/Cuisenaire publishers or on her website at: [www.lorettaclaiborne.com](http://www.lorettaclaiborne.com). Also, Scholastic features her in its school book series "Brain Food" in the book entitled *Ambassadors*.

## The Arc of Steuben Announces Associates of the Month

The Arc of Steuben Associates of the Month are pictured left to right: **Deb Margeson** (March), **Rich Andrews** (April), and **Rachael Mehlenbacher** (May).

Steuben Arc recognizes and congratulates these outstanding associates who are truly People First!

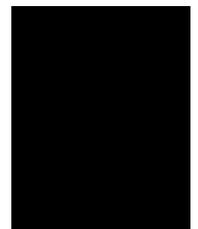


Photo by Bob Haggard

## Instructors of the Month

*By Pamela Thompson*

**C**ongratulations to the instructors of the Month recipients for January, February and March 2007.

Stacie Ladd is the Instructor of the Month for January. She has been with the agency for just over fourteen years. Stacie has held several positions in that time and is currently the Quality Assurance Specialist/HIPPA Privacy Officer. As the Privacy Officer, Stacie provides education to our associates on HIPPA in Orientation III. She also provides instruction on Corporate Compliance and our internal auditing process. Stacie makes her trainings fun and encourages associates to ask questions both in the class and in the job. She is a great resource for the agency. Stacie is also very active with the FUN Committee and promotes an enjoyable work environment.

The February 2007 Instructor of the Month is Jean Jensen. On February 15th Jean had been with the agency for 26 years (1981). Jean instructs Open Book Management during the Orientation Series. She laughs as she says she "filling in" in the interim of a search for a new Financial Director. Jean's knowledge of the organization gives her tremendous skill and humor to deliver the final piece of the Orientation puzzle appreciated by new associates. Jean has since moved into a newly developed position at The Arc of Steuben as the Director of Planning and has relocated from the PVO location to Industrial Park. Jean works to create new service opportunities for all of the individuals we support.

Matt Mehlenbacher is the March 2007 Instructor of the Month. Matt has instructed many of the trainings offered by The Arc of Steuben. He has played many roles at the agency since his arrival August of 1993, from mentor to the Incredible Angels where he brings his "we rock" attitude, to his new title as Quality Enhancement Coordinator. Matt has put on a variety of faces to brighten up the days of others. (Do you remember the Unemployed Easter Bunny? Or RRR... the Pirate?) Matt's stories and humor have created a great learning environment for new and seasoned associates alike.

## Team of the Quarter

**T**he Arc of Steuben is pleased to announce the Team of the First Quarter for 2007 is the Pinney Road Team. Members of the team are Dawn Drake, Jennifer Audinwood, Tina Stratton, Carol Schultz, Carolyn Anderson, Rhonda Tyler-Putman, Tim Wright, Kathy Hudson, Dave Rombach, Connie Palmer, Steve Miller, Karen Pearl, and Shawn Manhart.

Their nomination read, in part:

"Several of the Pinney Road associates were hired in October in anticipation of the home opening in November of 2006. The opening was not official until January. In the waiting period for opening, they faced many challenges; completed trainings; and shadowed at Geneva, Oaklawn, Brundage, VanScoter, and Wayland. As with any new home, we have faced our own set of challenges. Some were humorous like having the Prattsburgh fire department arrive for our first fire drill (cookies were provided at next department meeting with a thank you). Other challenges included losing power the first weekend due to ice. One of the biggest challenges has been in learning and understanding the needs of all of the people we serve, one being new to the agency and requiring more time and learning than had been anticipated. Tim Wright, Residential Nursing Coordinator, has assisted and contributed to this individual's success by taking the lead to assure that assessments are being done, new contacts made, and medications are as they need to be. Dave Rombach has assisted at all hours of the day and night, been available to model with us and answer questions. The second challenge has been covering long hours and extra shifts. Though we have faced many challenges, the attitude (though at times weary) has stayed positive and determined to provide quality service to ALL of the people we serve.

"The associates have been diligently working to assist the guys to get acquainted with the Prattsburgh community. They are attending the firemen's breakfast, looking into some volunteer

*(Continued on page 9)*



### Quality People Doing Quality Work

- Do you want to be a part of a world-class organization?
- Want a job where there are opportunities for advancement, paid training, excellent benefits, and paid time off?
- Want a job where you make a difference in the lives of others while working in a family atmosphere?

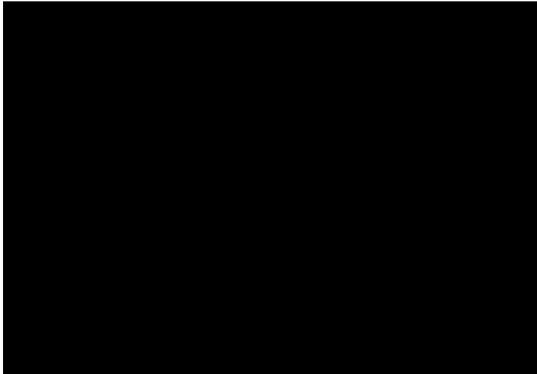
### The Arc of Steuben may have a job for you!

- Most positions require a minimum of a high school diploma and a valid NYS driver's license acceptable to the Arc of Steuben's insurance carrier. Contact the Human Resources Department at 607-776-4146. EOE.

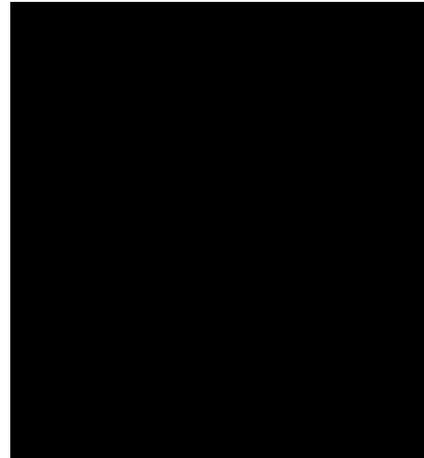




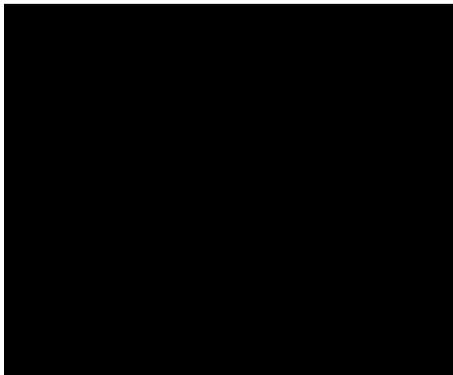
## **NEWS FROM HOME**



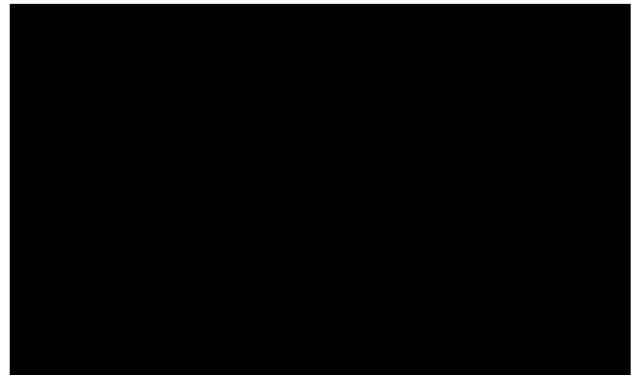
Sandy Toomey and Linda Thomas proudly show off their awards for participation in the 2006-2007 Special Olympics Bowling League. The awards were presented at the annual banquet for the Genesee Express bowlers.



Fred Wood stands in front of his home in Belle Haven. Fred was team captain and instrumental in raising more than \$1200 for the American Cancer Society through the Hornell Relay for Life. Fred led a team of 30 people in the annual walk.



On March 31, 2007, Darrin Greenfield attended the annual Knights of Columbus Sport Night Awards and was honored with a Certificate of Excellence. "In recognition of your hard work and determination as you strive to achieve your goals in life. Your hard work and your will to win is surely and inspiration to us all." We are all very proud of Darrin and congratulate him on his award.



In February, the girls at Fourth Street Residence collected donations for needy animals. In return, the Hornell Humane Society conducted an animal care class at their home. Participants included (l-r) Ronical Mosher, Pam Peterson, Tanya Austin, Melissa Horton, and "Smokey" the cat. The girls enjoyed the class and were very interested in the information that was provided.

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*(Continued from page 8)*

work, and utilizing the local library. Two of the individuals have possible employment opportunities within the Prattsburgh community. They are attending sports events in Prattsburgh and other areas and participating in Special Olympics. Day Habilitation Services are in place and growing.

"This team of individuals deserves to be recognized for the dedication and service they have and continue to provide. Change is not easy for anyone, but these guys just keep on coming and giving. I would also like to recognize as part of this team and its success a few individuals that have contributed well above their job duties. They are Karen Pearl, Geneva Supervisor (who set up medically for us and acted as medical assistant until Tina took over mid-February); Steve Miller, Direct Support II (who has been assisting with supervisory tasks, working long hours, and doing whatever is needed); and Kathy Hudson (providing Day Habilitation services directly to Pinney Road).

Also nominated was Community Supports Hornell "mini" Team.

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## The Arc of Steuben and The Arc of Steuben Foundation acknowledge and appreciate the following donations:

(February 26, 2007—May 11, 2007):

### Membership

Jeffrey and Mary Lewis

Debra Griswold

*to the Groner Memorial Fund*

Donald and Bernita Millhollen

Matt and Rachel Mehlenbacher

Robert and Robin Gaige

Corning Enterprises

Alexander Wahlig

Oak's of Corning

Crowley Foods

Chemung Canal Trust Company

LeChase Construction

### Memorials

Tina Jackson

*in memory of Roxie Slayton*

Bernie Burns

*in memory of Gary Johnson*

William Robinson

*in memory of Nancy Weaver*

Donald and Rosamonde Presher

*in memory of Nancy Weaver*

Victoria Davis

*in memory of Mary Killigrew*

William and Karen Wood

*to the Groner Memorial Fund*

### Holiday Appeal

Donald Rouse

### Legacy of Love

Bear's Family Restaurant

Automated Cells and Equipment

### Arc Star Golf Classic

Neil and Lori Fagan

Sprague Insurance

Steuben County IDA

Jackson and Connie Morris

Eric and Laura Buisch

### Miscellaneous

Ruth Pryslopski

American Legion Post #1279

Dr. Konstantin Frank

Vinifera Wine Cellars

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## What Is Autism? An Overview

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically last throughout a person's lifetime. It is part of a group of disorders known as Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Today, 1 in 150 children are diagnosed with autism. It occurs in all racial, ethnic, and social groups and is more than four times more likely to strike boys than girls. Autism impairs a person's ability to communicate and relate to others. It is also associated with rigid routines and repetitive behaviors, such as obsessively arranging objects or following very specific routines. Symptoms can range from very mild to quite severe.

Autism was first identified in 1943 by Dr. Leo Kanner of Johns Hopkins Hospital. At the same time, a German scientist, Dr. Hans Asperger, described a milder form of this disorder that is now known as Asperger Syndrome. These two disorders are listed in the DSM IV (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) as two of the five developmental disorders that fall under the Autism Spectrum Disorders. The other three are Rett Syndrome PDD (Pervasive Developmental Disorder), and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder. All these disorders are characterized by varying degrees of impairment in communication skills and social abilities, and also by repetitive behaviors.

Autism Spectrum Disorders can usually be reliably diagnosed by age 3, although new research is pushing back the age of early diagnosis to as early as 6 months. Parents are usually the first to notice unusual behaviors in their child or their child's failure to reach appropriate developmental milestones.

If your child is diagnosed with autism, early intervention is critical to gain maximum benefit from existing therapies.

Currently, there are no effective means to prevent autism, no fully effective treatments, and no cure. Research indicates, however, that early intervention in an appropriate educational setting for at least two years during the preschool years can result in significant improvements for many young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

*Source Information: Autism Speaks [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org). Taken from NYSARC, Inc., Prevention Bulletin, Volume 6, Issue 1, Spring 2007.*

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## Incredible Angels Corner

*By Matt Mehlenbacher*

Back in October 2006, the Incredible Angels pledged to donate \$1000.00 toward The Arc of Steuben's Capital Campaign. The group decided that they would contribute all the profits from their fundraisers over the course of a year (from 10/1/06 – 9/30/07) even if that totaled more than the original pledge. As of April 30, 2007 the group has raised \$1085.90 toward their pledge. The Incredible Angels are very excited about participating in The Arc of Steuben's *Together We Soar* capital campaign.

This year The Arc of Steuben is combining our annual Membership Drive with our Annual Appeal campaign. This is in response to your wish for fewer mailings as well as our own effort to decrease printing and mailing expenses. **Therefore, we are asking you to renew your membership or enroll as a new member, and make a contribution to the Annual Appeal at the same time.**

Our membership levels have changed to more accurately reflect the desires of potential members. Please give serious thought to your new membership or renewal. The Arc needs you now more than ever—be a part of our future! Your tax deductible contribution helps fund services and enriches the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities. Your gift helps them receive the supports they need to be productive members of our communities. As The Arc's new slogan says, we are *In the Community, Of the Community*.

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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND APPEAL



*Please accept my/our support of The Arc of Steuben's mission.*

### Levels of Giving (Please check one):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 - \$49 (Member)     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 - \$99 (Life Member)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 - \$299 (Friend)  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 - \$499 (Supporter)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - \$999 (Sponsor) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 and up (Benefactor) |

*Please make checks payable to The Arc of Steuben. Your gift is tax deductible.*

Please charge my credit card:  VISA  Mastercard  AMEX

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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## *In the Community ... Of the Community*

### *Quality People Making a Difference ...*

Dan Mills, an employment specialist with Steuben Placement Services, spent a weekend building and installing a wheelchair ramp at Gary Vanderhoef's home in Corning, NY. Gary, who works at The Arc of Steuben's Industrial Park facility, assisted Dan by supervising the placement and measurements.

## Featured Service— New Dimensions in Health Care

By Jean Jensen, Planning Director

**N**ew Dimensions in Health Care is an Article 28 clinic that provides a variety of health care services to adult individuals with disabilities. The clinic's vocational counselors assist individuals with job performance counseling and skills development training, resulting in increased self esteem and self worth. The speech pathologist assists individuals to overcome socialization and communication barriers through the use of articulation, voice, and auditory training, and the use of alternative communication techniques and devices. The occupational and physical therapists provide evaluations and skilled treatment to individuals with acute and chronic health issues as well as provide recommendations that assist the individual to live a more fulfilling and independent life. The clinic also provides psychology and psychiatry services to individuals who need counseling and medication management. Podiatry services are available two days per month and provide individuals with routine and acute foot care. Clinic services are available five days a week at our Bath Arc Way or Unlimited Success Wayland sites. Last year, the New Dimensions in Health Care clinic provided easy access to quality health care for 182 individuals with disabilities. Here are a few things these individuals had to say about the services they receive:

Speech Pathology is available at our Arc Wayland and US Wayland sites.

R.T. and J.H. receive psychology services and had the following to say: "He helped me a lot, helps with my problems and helps me not to be under stress." "She helped me get along with staff and stuff."

D.D. works with the speech pathologist and had the following to share: "She helps me with the "B" and "V" sounds, we look at pictures of animals and I tell her what they are."

B.B. received occupational therapy after surgery on her hand and shared the following: "I had surgery on my hand and she helped me to do exercises with my hand. She helped me when my wrist got tight."

Vocational Counseling is offered at our Bath Arc Way site.

**Visit The Arc of Steuben's Website  
at [www.arcofsteuben.org](http://www.arcofsteuben.org)**

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