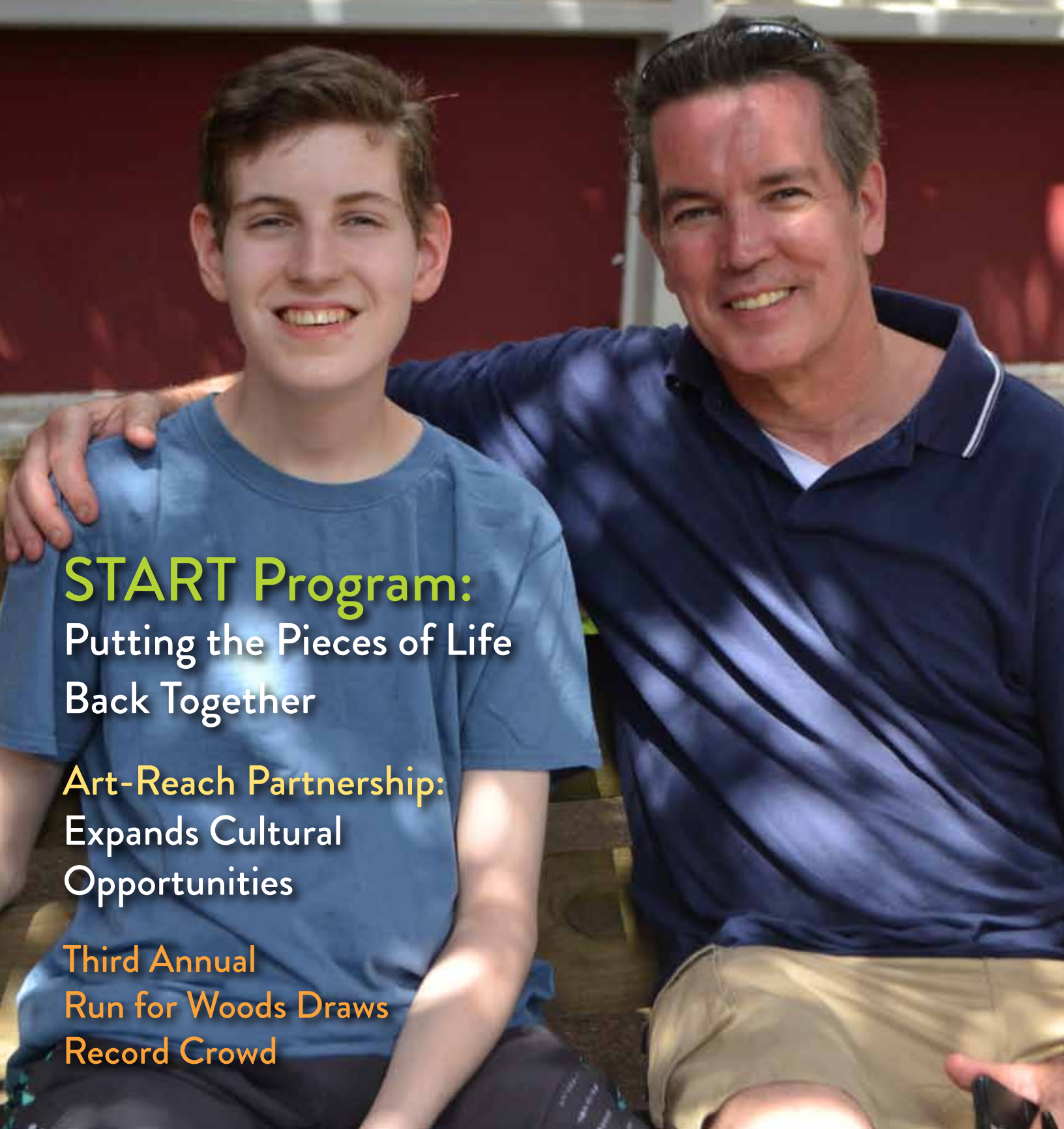


WOODS' WORLD



START Program:
Putting the Pieces of Life
Back Together

Art-Reach Partnership:
Expands Cultural
Opportunities

**Third Annual
Run for Woods Draws
Record Crowd**

Putting the Pieces of Life Back Together in the START Program

Olivia Tate, 21, was diagnosed with autism at two years of age. After years of specialized schooling and several inpatient treatments, the Tate family knew there had to be another way of life for Olivia.

“A few years ago, Olivia was not thriving in school or at home. She suffered from obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), anxiety and was aggressive,” explains Olivia’s mother Gay. “She had been an inpatient at a behavioral health facility in Bucks County three separate times, but she was not getting better. Life for Olivia was slowly unraveling and we knew we needed to make some changes.”

That’s when the Tate Family found the START Program at Woods Services. It turned out to be a blessing for Olivia and her family.

START (Short-Term Autism Residential Treatment) is for children and adolescents, diagnosed with autism, who are experiencing a



Samantha Solomon, START program Staff Counselor III, and Emily share some quiet time together.

significant change in behaviors that are threatening to the family and/or to the individual and cannot be safely managed in their home setting. The program was established in 2013 by Mark Reber, MD, retired psychiatrist and first medical director for START; Mike Haggerty, Vice President of Woods Programs; Scott Spreat, Ed.D., President of Woods Programs and Chief Research Officer; and Dan Shine, Woods Services Retired Director of Admissions.

“START teaches residents coping mechanisms and socially acceptable replacement behaviors so that they can be reunited with their families and return to their education program/school,” says Dr. Carolyn Appleton, clinical director of START. Clinically, the program is a blending of traditional applied behavior therapy (ABA) and modified psychotherapy (mostly cognitive behavioral therapy). “The entire program is centered on family reunification, so the family is required to participate in intensive therapy and training. We help families practice these new strategies first with staff/clinical support and

then on their own. Sessions occur in the Woods residence, community, and then through repeated practice opportunities in the home setting.”

Each individual in the program receives a treatment plan that is developed and implemented by the START team which includes a clinical program director, psychiatrist, behavioral clinician/BCBA, social worker and program manager. Additional therapeutic services

WOODS’ WORLD

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on *Woods’ World*.
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Woods Services does not discriminate in services or employment on the basis of race, color, religious creed, disability, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship or veteran status.

Cover photo: An important component of the START program’s success lies in family involvement in learning new strategies that will help their child return home and remain home with success.

Eric Devlin and his father, Neil, spend a little quiet time together during a recent visit at Woods. Neil shared, “The START program was an excellent program for Eric. He has made great strides and is more prepared to continue his journey to success thanks to the staff at Woods.”



Olivia Tate attends her graduation ceremony this year.

include occupational, speech, and physical therapies, recreational therapies and educational and vocational services. Since the program opened, START has admitted 44 individuals and discharged 33 with 28 of them returned back to their homes or community placements and five that required residential or higher levels of care at discharge.

Based on the research at the time START began, Woods expected to serve primarily boys as well as those who had more severe cognitive/functional impairments. Instead, the first resident was a young lady and the program has served many individuals who are at a higher functioning level than anticipated. Additionally, START has served many more individuals with co-occurring intensive psychiatric issues than originally expected.

Olivia spent over a year in the START program working on increasing her frustration tolerance and flexibility as well as learning more appropriate ways to communicate her wants and needs without becoming unsafe. During that time, she was able to remain in her local school while living at

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Woods, which helped maintain some consistency. "The environment at Woods was very relaxed and clean, which is good for someone with



Eric Devlin poses before the Woodlands Prom with his one-on-one school aide, China Crump.

OCD," says Gay. "Olivia enjoyed walks around the campus, trips to restaurants, movies and the mall and being able to come home for visits. We worked very hard to get support once she returned home, and that person is from the START program, so that has been great."

For individuals completing the program, discharge plans are designed to ensure support and continued progression. "The START staff work with parents, home-based providers and school personnel to share the behavioral strategies and environmental modifications that promote change and foster resilience in each individual," said Dr. Appleton.

"Olivia is able to sleep again, find joy again, has gone to an amusement park... things she has never done in life, she is doing now. This is wonderful for her and our family."

Art-Reach ART PARTNERSHIP



Art-Reach is a connector, leader, and advocate for accessible cultural opportunities for people with disabilities and communities facing economic adversity. The organization leverages its position between the human service and cultural sectors to create social change and increase cultural opportunities for people who are typically under-considered by the cultural sector.

Woods is a member organization of Art-Reach which enables our recreation staff to purchase significantly reduced-price tickets to over 200 cultural venues in the Philadelphia region. Art-Reach's arts partners include The Philadelphia Zoo, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Kimmel Center, Adventure Aquarium and Franklin Institute.

"We are so thankful an organization like this exists in our region and are grateful to the Art-Reach staff for meeting the needs of people who are often forgotten among the cultural arts community," exclaimed Brandon Scott, Assistant Director of Woodlands Recreation. In the past two months, the Woodlands Recreation program has gone to the Philadelphia Zoo three times, Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing, Mutter

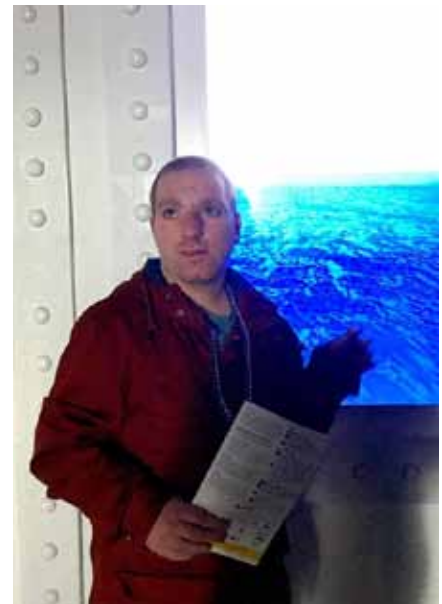
Museum and African American Museums and sent two groups to the Aquarium in Camden during the July break. They also sent a large group of 35 staff and residents to the Lulu Shiner's Circus in May.

Residents in the Mollie Woods program have visited many museums (Philadelphia Art Museum, Mutter Museum, Academy of Natural Sciences, Franklin Institute, Barnes Foundation, Please Touch Museum, and Seaport Museum) and they have had the pleasure of going to Longwood Gardens, Morris Arboretum and the Camden Aquarium. They have seen plays at Theater Horizon, Prince Theater, Bristol Riverside Theater and the Ritz.

Art-Reach also provides artist-led in-facility workshops for organizations. Woods has an in-facility artist at least once a month. The in-house workshops offer residents amazing opportunities to learn about new art forms and develop new hobbies. We have had workshops that taught them how to make instruments from recycled materials for our drum circles, and workshops that showed them how to Bollywood dance! We have looked at slide shows of actual world travelers and heard their amazing stories. We

have made spin art on old records, written poems and songs, created clay sculptures and ceramics, and even had Hip-Hop dance classes! The in-facility workshops bring the world to our doorstep and make art and culture more accessible for the individuals we serve.

"Art Reach has opened new doors for our residents," expressed Beth O'Toole, Woods Assistant Director of Recreation and Aquatics for the Mollie Woods program. "We have been provided the opportunity to visit new places that would have otherwise been out of our reach. Experiencing new art forms opens our hearts and minds and allows us to grow socially and emotionally in a positive way! We have attended new places and made new friends and we are extremely grateful to the staff and volunteers at Art Reach!"





Mollie Woods OLYMPICS

The Mollie Woods Recreation Department continued its tradition of hosting a three-week Olympics-style competition, complete with staff challenges, group games, off-campus bowling, relay races, trivia, events to showcase talent, and an art night.



“We have been hosting the MW Olympics for eight years. It started as a one-week event that quickly became a crowd favorite and over time has evolved in to a three-week event,” said Assistant Director of Mollie Woods Recreation/Aquatics Beth O’Toole. “We make signs, banners and headbands as well as have Opening Ceremonies with the torch lighting and a pep rally. We focus on good sportsmanship, teamwork, supporting each other and having fun!”



The Happiest Place on Earth

A few rain showers didn’t dampen the spirits of the 90 children who participated in the 94th annual Operation Dreamlift on Tuesday, May 2. Operation Dreamlift is a program of the Sunshine Foundation and provides one-day trips to Disney World to children with disabilities. The group took off from Trenton-Mercer Airport in Ewing, NJ, early in the morning, spent the day at Magic Kingdom, and returned to the airport later that evening. Woods resident Nasmeir attended with staff member Jon Breslin and the pair enjoyed a whirlwind day full of rides, shows, and characters!

Successful Spring for Yellow Daffodil

The Yellow Daffodil Flower and Gift Shop has experienced tremendous growth since opening its community store nine months ago. The new shop's Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, prom season, and wedding season were all very successful and the staff is already looking forward to next year.

"Prom flowers have tripled in number this past season and we are booking weddings well into 2018," said Yellow Daffodil Manager, Ginny Page. "So it looks like the word is getting out there about how creative a team we have at Yellow Daffodil."

Page is especially proud of the shop's brand new line of crafts which includes painted gourd birdhouses and adorable magnet sets.

"The craft department is really the scene stealer of the shops," said Page. "We couldn't be more excited to show everyone the new creations."

Summer brings Farmers Markets and you can find Yellow Daffodil crafts, as well as fresh and dried flower bouquets, at the Yardley Farmers Market in Buttonwood Park on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm and First Fridays at the Waterfront in Bristol Borough on August 4 from 5 pm to 8 pm.

"Looking back over the past year in review of the goals we set and the vision we had for the shops and watching these accomplishments come to life—surpassing even our greatest dreams, I have to say that the employees at the Yellow Daffodil have proved my ideal that we only have people with the greatest abilities...not disabilities," said Page.

For more information on Yellow Daffodil or to place an order online, please visit www.yellowdaffodil.org.

BeechTree Has Been Busy!



Adam Greene showcased BeechTree's line of bath and body products and shared the BeechTree story with attendees at the Historic Langhorne Association's Strawberry Festival in early June.

Another Woods social enterprise, BeechTree Bath and Body Products, has also seen great growth since the hiring of manager Chris Rushforth and a complete revamping of the product line last fall. In addition to launching a website, BeechTree has increased its product line to now offer soap bars, foaming hand wash, and gift sets for any occasion. The company has made it a mission to create products that are as close to natural and as environmentally friendly as possible.

"I am very happy to announce that our soap bars contain sustainably sourced fair trade certified palm oil," said Rushforth. "BeechTree also developed a production method for making lotion bottles and sealing them each with an air seal to preserve freshness."

Another key to success for BeechTree is a grassroots approach to production and marketing.

BeechTree's line of products is produced, bottled, labeled, packaged, and shipped by individuals with brain injuries who are receiving services at Beechwood NeuroRehab, a program of Woods Services. Rushforth and other Beechtree employees regularly attend local markets and special events in the area to spread the word about their powerful story and great products.

"We have been going to Rice's market on Tuesdays and some Saturdays and turn a profit every time, which is great because we count on that revenue for payroll for our BeechTree workers," said Rushforth. "Local community members have been very supportive and appreciative of the high quality of our soaps and lotions."

For more information or to purchase BeechTree Bath and Body products, please visit our website at www.beechtreeproducts.org.

Yellow Daffodil in the News!



Yellow Daffodil was recently featured on a segment of Fox 29 featuring veteran reporter Joyce Evans. The staff enjoyed interacting with Joyce and her cameraman, Shane, while giving them a tour of the shops and discussing their roles at Yellow Daffodil.



Evans was so impressed with the crafts that she took home a rooster made out of a gourd and handpainted with love by the talented individuals employed by Yellow Daffodil!

Beechwood Community Garden Dream Becomes a Reality

Beechwood NeuroRehab was in bloom this spring as the Beechwood Community Garden was officially unveiled! The goal of the garden project is to enhance the array of opportunities for pre-vocational training, independent living skills, and NeuroRehab therapies that are currently offered. According to the American Horticultural Therapy Association, horticultural therapy is a little-known type of therapy that gets people to work with their hands,



Special thanks to Marcia Garland, whose gift of \$10,000 made the Beechwood Community Garden project possible!



develop motor skills and connect to nature.

After a brain injury, an individual may have trouble speaking or be challenged by memory loss and poor motor control. The act of gardening can assist people with ABI in learning new skills or regaining those that are lost. Gardening depends on memory and executive functions such as planning, organizing, task initiation, evaluating, and problem solving. Gardening has also been known to reduce pain and stress.

All plots in the Beechwood Community Garden are currently being cared for by families, staff members or neighbors of Woods/ Beechwood NeuroRehab. Each plot features its own unique flowers, plants, herbs or vegetables and it has been

wonderful watching this project grow before our eyes!

Funding for this project was provided by Marcia Garland, whose sister Marlene had been a resident of Beechwood NeuroRehab until she moved to Detroit in 2010 to be closer to Marcia. "The Community Garden is an important project for the Horticulture Unit of our Stabler Clubhouse," stated Dan LaValla, Director of Clubhouse and Vocational Services at Beechwood NeuroRehab Center. "We are incredibly grateful to Marcia for helping to make this a reality."



The Sblendorio family enjoys taking care of their garden during weekend visits!



Third Annual Run for Woods:



The sun broke through just in time to see more than 1,100 walkers, runners, and rollers take their mark for the third annual Run for Woods 5K and 1 Mile Fun Walk on Saturday, May 6. In just three short years, the Run for Woods has become one of the largest integrated events in Bucks County and it continues to grow thanks to the support of staff members, sponsors, community members and families of Woods.

A dedicated group of more than 100 volunteers helped the day run smoothly by staffing the course as marshals and assisting with rest stops, registration, and lunch. The Fitness Fair featured 10 kiosks including the Independence Blue Cross Van, which offered complimentary health screenings (glucose, blood pressure and body mass index) and two of Woods' social enterprises, the Yellow Daffodil

Flower and Gift Shop and BeechTree Bath & Body Products.

At the Opening Ceremony, State Representatives Frank Farry and Gene DiGirolamo and State Senator Tommy Tomlinson presented Woods with a resolution from the State of Pennsylvania recognizing the importance of our advocacy efforts, which ensure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have a choice in where to work.

John Anthony Jensen spoke from his heart when he recounted the harrowing tale of his brain injury and his life now at Beechwood NeuroRehab, a program of Woods. "This day and age, I look forward to getting up every morning and continuing on with the day before's endeavors and ultimately, my life. Every day is just a really great day at

Woods, especially days like today," he said. "I know it's gonna sound like Beechwood's paying me to say this, but in all honesty, this place is nothing but heaven sent...I look forward to getting up every morning and continuing my life."

Following the run/walk, participants were treated to a delicious lunch of pork ribs and steak prepared by Outback Steakhouse and pasta and chicken prepared by Carrabba's Italian Grill. Our local Corner Bakery Café in Newtown also hosted a wonderful dessert tent. Entertainment was provided by Woods residents who presented several songs from their recent Disney Cabaret performance during lunch.

Awards were presented to the Top Individual Fundraiser: Whit Park, a Woods resident who raised more than

“BEST ONE YET”!



\$7300, the Top Fundraising Team, Team Mikey [Faulkner], which raised \$14,425, and the Largest Team, the Woodlands Warriors, with 58 participants including residents and staff. Awards were also presented to the fastest male and female runners in 10 age categories.

“For the first time ever, a Woods resident was our most successful fundraiser. Whit Park raised \$7300 for Woods Services,” said Hilary Stephens, Vice President of Development. “Whit spent hours on the phone calling friends and family. What a self-advocate! I hope that next year, others will follow his lead.”

Whit has lived at Woods for nearly 20 years and currently works at The Woods Enterprise (TWE) work center and recently started at the Yellow

Daffodil Flower and Gift Shop. He enlisted the help of his parents, Penny and Jerry, and his brother, Ross, to spread the word about the Run for Woods and even he was impressed by the amount of money he was able to raise.

“I was pretty amazed myself,” Whit said. “I thought it was a great thing to do to raise money and my goal is to beat my total next year.”

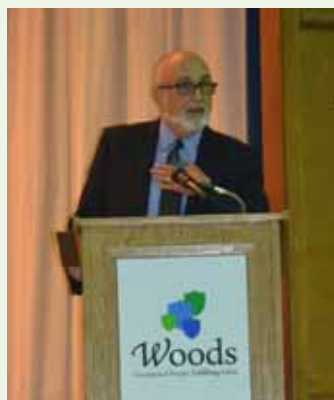
Thanks to the generosity of nine Faulkner Ciocca Dealerships that raised a whopping \$100,000 for Woods this year, and a record-breaking turnout, a total of \$205,000 was raised for Woods Services. Joe Faulkner and Gregg Ciocca were on hand with their families to ensure that Woods reached its goal. Funds raised at the run/walk support services not currently covered or

reimbursed by any funding source (including school systems, private insurance, Medicare or Medicaid) like music and art therapy, field trips and tickets to sporting or cultural events in the community or capital improvements to our buildings and grounds.

“We had a record 755 donors this year supporting our runners and walkers, which is more than we have ever had,” stated Stephens. “And the participation of our new community partners, Outback Steakhouse, Carrabba’s Italian Grill and the Corner Bakery Café has helped us take the Run for Woods to a whole new level.”

Thank you to everyone who helped make the third annual Run for Woods the best one yet! We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

Congratulations Class of 2017!



Dr. Richard Barbour, son of the late Dr. Harold S. Barbour, was on hand to present the 2017 Harold S. Barbour Award to Haiden Z. Dr. Harold S. Barbour served as the President of Woods Services from 1966-1983 and his family established the award following his death. The award is presented to the Mollie Woods student who has demonstrated exemplary courage and initiative in meeting goals and challenges.

Terry Czarkowski, Administrator of Education Services, poses with Marqease E. after he was presented with the 8th annual Ronald Maxymuik Leadership Award, which goes to the student who has shown the most initiative in being a leader, role model, and has helped the community.

Patrick S. reacts after hearing his name called as the recipient of the 6th annual Raymond Ficke Award. This award was presented to Patrick because of his significant gains, developments, and progress in academics, personal adjustment, and levels of independent development.



Congratulations to the Class of 2017!

John A.
Darrian B.
Lashawn C.
Dashonda D.
Marqease E.

Michael G.
April H.
Gregory J.
T. Garrett K.
Gregory Grisha K.

Alec L.
Francis M.
Aaron O.
Colin O.
Dakota P.

Jaleel P.
Abdiel R.
John R.
Avi (Maurice) S.
Patrick S.

Evelynn S.
Ryan T.
Nicholas T.
Kevin T.
Haiden Z.

“I Have My Independence Here”

When John Jensen looks around his home at Beechwood NeuroRehab in Langhorne, he sees a collection of people that he is happy to call his friends. They may not be the friends he would've pictured himself having at the age of 32, but he is proud and blessed to have them in his life. “The originals” he calls them, as most have been at Beechwood since its early days in the late 1970s. One thing John and his housemates have in common is that they all suffered an acquired brain injury at some point in their lives.

John's injury occurred the summer before his senior year of high school. Like many teenagers, most of that summer was spent cruising in his car and hanging out with his friends. But on August 9, 2002, the course of John's life would change when he inexplicably crossed his 1999 Mercury Cougar into oncoming traffic and was t-boned by an SUV. John suffered two broken ribs but his head took the brunt of the impact when it slammed into the windshield. He says a guardian angel passing by is just one of at least three people who he credits with saving his life.

“A woman driving by saw the accident and called 911. Not everyone



More than 1,000 people got to hear John's story when he spoke at the third annual Run for Woods in May.

had a cell phone back in 2002 but I am very lucky that she did,” he said. “They were able to reach me on a backwoods road and airlift me to the hospital.”

John's second guardian angel is someone he had known his whole life: his own father. When John first arrived at the hospital, he underwent several surgeries and was clinging to life. A doctor told John's father to take him off of life support but he refused. After one month and four days in a coma, John's eyes opened and gave his family

the miracle they had been praying for. John returned home to live with his father, who transformed the downstairs of their bi-level home so John could have access to everything he needed.

“It was like being born again. I was suddenly a baby again in a 17-year-old's body. I had to re-learn how to walk, how to talk, everything,” he said. “Years and years of hard work, some slightly top-notch doctor's ‘words of wisdom’, and my family's angelic, saint-like, true blue love were instrumental in saving my life and getting me back to the way I am now.”

John's third guardian angel is someone he has never actually met. After spending several years living at home and being transported to and from therapies, John was brought to Beechwood NeuroRehab after his grandmother heard about the program from a neighbor.

“My grandmother was telling them my story and they mentioned that their daughter worked at Beechwood. I'm very thankful for that conversation,” he said. “A lot of people got to go to college and live in a dorm and I never did. Now I have my independence here and I really love it. This place is a God-send.”



John Jensen crosses the finish line at the third annual Run for Woods.

Career Path at Woods Leads to Nursing



Tine Hansen-Turton, Woods CEO, on left, and Kathy Gostomski, Health Services Administrator, on right, congratulate Lois Seitter Award runner-up Kim Nuzzi, RN, lead nurse in Beechwood, and the Lois Seitter Award honoree Joe Montenegro, RN.

Nurses are kind of a big deal at Woods Services so every May, during National Nurses Week, we take time to recognize their immense contribution to the health and well-

being of the individuals we serve.

In honor of Nurse Lois Seitter's lengthy service to Woods, we present the Lois Seitter Award annually during Nurses Week in recognition of a

nurse's outstanding devotion to the job, professional skills and dedication to the individuals Woods serves. The nursing staff nominate the recipient.

Receiving this year's Lois Seitter Award is Joe Montenegro, RN, Woodlands/Crestwood Nursing Supervisor. Joe has been a dedicated employee of Woods for decades, starting as a direct support professional in the Woodlands Center for Challenging Behaviors, and then he became a certified Med Tech in Woodlands, then got his degree through the nursing program at Bucks County Community College, then joined the Woodlands Nursing team, and is now the Woodlands Nursing Supervisor. He supports his fellow nurses, acts as a liaison for agencies and families, and leads with firm and fair consistency. He is always willing to share his knowledge and jumps in wherever, whenever he is needed.



The Philadelphia Business Journal has selected Tom Grant, Woods Chief Financial Officer, as one of its CFO of the Year Honorees! Tom's unique experiences have prepared him to be instrumental in strengthening Woods financial position as we evolve into a larger population health management organization through acquisitions and organic growth throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. We couldn't be more proud that others recognize his outstanding talents and the remarkable contributions he has made to Woods!



JOIN US FOR:

A DAY AT THE RACES!

Saturday, October 7, 2017

12-4 PM

PARX Racing- Bensalem, PA

Tickets are \$60/person and include a light buffet.

Funds raised at this event will support recreational activities for individuals served by Woods.

To purchase tickets go to www.woods.org and click on the "Day at the Races" button at the top.



Conservatory Concert at Cairn

On a hot day in early June, 75 residents from Woods escaped the heat to listen to some cool classical and soothing soul music. The concert took place inside the Chapel at Cairn University and was arranged by The Conservatory. The concert began with a stunning operatic rendition of “A Tale as Old as Time” from the Disney Classic, *Beauty and the Beast*. Three pianists, two singers and a cellist performed 15 beautiful musical pieces composed by an array of artists, from Bach, to Chopin to the Temptations. The performers included Greg March, a resident of Beechwood Neurorehab, who suffered a traumatic brain injury decades ago and taught himself to play the guitar again. Woods residents enjoyed clapping and singing along with Greg as he played and sang “Kiss and Say Goodbye”, “Beauty is Only Skin Deep”, as well as “Just My Imagination” by the Temptations! To watch a clip of Greg March performing at the Conservatory Concert at Cairn, please go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/woodsvids>.

**Woodlands
PROM**

Woodlands held its annual prom at the Philadelphia Ballroom on May 18th. This year's theme was “Alice in Wonderland” and everyone enjoyed dinner, dancing, and a night to remember!

The graphic features a green hedge border with red and white roses, playing cards (Ace of Spades, Ace of Clubs), and a blue butterfly. The background shows a stylized landscape with a white building and a river.



Aloha New Friends!

The Mollie Woods Recreation Department hosted a luau at the end of May and opened it up to friends in the community with intellectual disabilities.

“It was a night full of dancing with our favorite DJ, line dances, limbo, and musical games,” said Beth O’Toole, Assistant Director of Mollie Woods Recreation/Aquatics.

The event also featured three craft tables and themed snacks like Hawaiian fruit skewers with yogurt dip. Woods plans to host future events that will be open to the community. Be sure to check the Woods Services and Mollie Woods Recreation Facebook pages for announcements!



Welcome Dr. Leshner

The Woods Services Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the election of Dr. Richard Leshner, DO FACC to a three-year term on the Board. Dr. Leshner currently serves as the Chief of Cardiology at St. Mary Medical Center located in Langhorne and has had a private cardiology practice in Bucks County since 1986. Dr. Leshner’s knowledge of medical practices and hospital management will be very helpful to Woods as we begin to expand our health care services. Dr. Leshner has been appointed to the Ad-Hoc Policy and Education and Ad-Hoc Business Development Committees.

Woods Receives Grants From Foundations Community Partnership

Woods has received two grants totaling \$20,187 from Foundations Community Partnership (FCP) to support training and other initiatives. FCP is a nonprofit foundation formed to improve the quality of life for special needs children, youth and families in Bucks County. Here are the details of the two grants:



- \$10,000 will provide training, using a trauma-informed approach, for clinicians and other staff who work with children and youth served by Woods. Because children with disabilities are especially vulnerable to sexual and physical abuse or neglect, many have experienced trauma, and more specifically, sexual trauma that can cause them to present inappropriate behaviors. Woods plans to partner with the Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) to implement the trainings, which will improve the capacity of staff to provide the most compassionate and effective treatment to these students.
- \$10,187 will support the renovation of a training kitchen for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Located in the Gardner Education Center, the kitchen will provide students with a larger, wheelchair accessible space to support learning and the development of life skills, such as menu planning, prepping and cooking and making healthy food choices. These skills will help students successfully transition into life in the community after graduation and gain greater independence.

Foundations Community Partnership is a nonprofit foundation formed to improve the quality of life for special needs children, youth and families in Bucks County.

Leader of Innovation

Congratulations to Woods CEO, Tine Hansen-Turton, for receiving the Philadelphia University/ Thomas Jefferson University Leader of Innovation 2017 Award during its Celebration of Innovation Event in May. The award pays tribute to those who contribute their talent, creativity and determination to meeting current and emerging social needs through innovation.

Tine was recognized as a serial innovator who has founded and led several nationally recognized health and human service organizations and trade associations. She is Co- Founder of the Social Innovations Journal, an incubator of new ideas that provides a unique vehicle to facilitate partnerships and entrepreneurship. She also serves as the founding Executive Director for the Convenient Care Association (CCA), the national trade association of over 2100 private-sector retail clinics serving 20 million people with basic health care services across the country. For the past two decades she has also been instrumental in positioning Nurse Practitioners as primary health care providers globally.





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Home Away from Home

The Family Center at Willowood is scheduled to open in early August and will be available for families to reserve to spend time with their loved ones. The Family Center has two private living room spaces plus a gameroom and each contains games, toys, and a television. The gameroom also includes a gaming console connected to the television. There is also a spacious kitchen with a microwave, oven, refrigerator, table and chairs, sink, dishes and utensils. And finally, there is a dining room that seats eight people comfortably around a table.

Once open, families are welcome to walk through at any time to see the space, and if not occupied, to use one of the rooms. Instructions for reserving a room in the Center are still being finalized and will be communicated with families via email and mail. "We want this to be a special place that families will enjoy for years to come and to feel like it is their home away from home," claimed Mike Haggerty, Vice President for Woods Programs who spearheaded the project. "I thank Hilary Stephens and the rest of the Development staff and everyone who donated to this worthwhile project for making it possible for our families and their loved ones to have a beautiful, comfortable place to enjoy one another's company." Besides individual donations, Woods also received funds from United by Autism to pay for landscaping around the Family Center and received a donation of books, games, puzzles and more from the social ministry at Faith Lutheran Church located in Hillsborough, NJ.

