



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families since 1948.

# The Guardian

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## ***Stephanie and Charlie Crowned King and Queen***

### **at Annual Day Services Prom**

On Thursday, June 21st, The Arc of Essex County crowned the annual king and queen during the 2018 Prom. Stephanie from Special Young Adults and Charlie from the West Essex hub took home the titles.

The prom, complete with a Hawaiian-luau theme, featured an afternoon of dancing, singing, food, and fun at Libretti's in Orange. Members of the community generously donated nearly 25 prom, formal, and cocktail dresses for attendees to wear.



This annual event offers approximately 100 Day Program participants the opportunity to enjoy a traditional prom experience. The highly anticipated event will return in June 2019. Follow The Arc of Essex County on our social media channels to get a sneak peek into the 2019 prom theme!

## ***The Arc Celebrates Stepping Stones Graduates***

It was a full house the morning of Tuesday, June 19th as families, staff, and volunteers packed the Stepping Stones gym for the school's annual completion ceremony and graduation. The 2018 school year concluded with the graduation of five students.

Graduates began the ceremony by walking in to the traditional tunes of pomp and circumstance.



They were joined by the remainder of their classmates as they led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, the Star Spangled Banner, and a sampling of their favorite songs. Following the ceremony, graduates, students, families, and friends enjoyed a dessert reception and year-in-review photo slideshow.

The Arc of Essex County would like to wish all of our graduates the best of luck as they begin their new adventures!

The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School is a Department of Education approved private school for students with disabilities serving children ages 3-10. Located in Roseland, NJ, the school is designed to meet the developmental and educational needs of children with cognitive impairments such as Down syndrome and other students with similar educational and developmental needs. For more information, or to request a tour and assistance with an out-of-district placement, contact Sue Brand, Director of Early Childhood and Education at (973) 535-1181 ext. 1271 or [sbrand@arcessex.org](mailto:sbrand@arcessex.org).

## ***The Arc Unveils Reimagined***

### **Camp Hope Facilities**

On Thursday, June 28th, The Arc of Essex County hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony and donor recognition event to unveil the recreational improvements made to the Camp Hope grounds as part of the Create Play Capital Campaign. More than 50 individual and foundation donors, Arc Board and staff, government officials, and families attended.



During the event, attendees toured the new, expansive air conditioned multi-purpose indoor activity center, additional outdoor shaded play space, and the enhanced multi-sensory splash pad. Other highlights included the remodeled pool pavilion, basketball courts, playground, and recreation field.

The original Create Play goal was to raise \$250,000, but The Arc was challenged to dream bigger. With the support of the community, more than \$1 million worth of recreational improvements were made to this treasured camp.

The project would not have been possible without the generous support of donors and commitment from Mayor Joseph Pannullo and the Township of East Hanover. The Arc of Essex County and Camp Hope will welcome record enrollment during the 2018 camp season, which run from July 2 to August 17. Thank you to everyone who made the Camp Hope Create Play Capital Campaign a success.

## ***Seton Hall University Occupational Therapy Students Implement***

### **Food and Nutrition Program at SYA**

In May and June, five occupational therapy students from Seton Hall University's School of Health and Medical Sciences designed and led a program at



The Arc's Special Young Adults Day Program to teach individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities about nutrition through hands on time in the kitchen. Day Program participants learned about the healthy eating pyramid while making nutrient rich meals and snacks including a colorful fruit salad and pita pizzas.

Do you have a loved one interested in The Arc of Essex County's Adult Day Services? Check out our Adult Day Services brochure, [available here](#), then reach out to The Arc of Essex County's Senior Director of Support Program Services, Melissa Soules, to learn how you can enroll - [msoules@arcessex.org](mailto:msoules@arcessex.org) or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1262.

## ***Help Us Replenish the Camp Transportation Fund***



### ***Sponsor a Camper Today!***

- **\$200** - Transportation for 1 camper for 1 week
- **\$100** - Transportation for 1 camper for ½ a week
- **\$40** - Transportation for 1 camper for 1 day
- **\$20** - Combine with other donations to help a camper

Our campers are embarking on another season of fun at Camp Hope. Little do they know of the exciting changes that await their arrival. Thanks to the outpouring of support from donors like you, our Create Play Camp Hope Capital Campaign was a smashing success! What began as a desire to update some of our recreational facilities in celebration of the camp's 60th anniversary, morphed into a project far beyond what we ever dreamed possible.

The extensive improvements to the camp facilities have created quite a buzz, resulting in record enrollment for the 2018 season. **However, with a weekly transportation cost of \$200 per camper and 40 percent of campers requiring funding assistance, we need your help.**

[Read this year's Spring Appeal to learn about The Arc of Essex County's "Camp Transportation Fund"](#). Then, make a tax-deductible donation so we can continue to meet this funding need for future campers. Donations can be made online at [www.arcessex.org/springappeal](http://www.arcessex.org/springappeal), via mail to 123 Naylon Avenue, Livingston, NJ 07039, or via phone by calling (973) 535-1181 ext. 1224.

## ***Board Members Elected to The Arc of Essex County***

Trustees, advisory board members, and officers were elected to The Arc of Essex County's Board of Directors during the June 18th Annual Membership Meeting.

### **Officer Appointments:**

- **President:** Margaret McNany
- **1st Vice President:** Stephen Falanga
- **2nd Vice President:** Robert Laurino
- **Recording Secretary:** John O'Brien
- **Immediate Past President:** Brad Hopton

### Advisory Board Appointments:

- John Daudt
- Michael Franchino
- Thomas Giblin
- Alvin Hersh
- Brad Huntington
- Robert Leopold
- John McKeon
- David Meyer
- Allison Morgan
- Scott White
- Richard Wright

### Trustee Appointments:

- Bruce Bird, Ph.D.
- Patricia Boylan
- Eileen Hahn
- Dana Irvic
- Brian Lowe
- Leon Morton

To view The Arc of Essex County's full Board of Directors, visit

<https://arcessex.org/about/board-of-directors/>.

## ***Volunteers Honored at*** **Annual Stepping Stones Luncheon**

On Wednesday, June 6th, The Candle Lighters and The Arc of Essex County paid tribute to the volunteers and staff of the Stepping Stones School during a luncheon celebration. Hosted annually by The Candle Lighters and the parents of Stepping Stones students, this luncheon recognizes the efforts of all school volunteers and staff and pays special tribute to those volunteers who celebrate milestone anniversaries. This year's honorees include:

- **1 Year:** Peggy Cochrane
- **5 Years:** Staci Feit
- **15 Years:** Sandy Werdenschlag
- **25 Years:** Susan Hammer



Special recognition was also given to Stepping Stones Physical Therapist Ruth Skudera and Principal Marvin Leiken who will retire following the 2017-2018 school year. Ruth spent more than 40 years at Stepping Stones, where she touched countless students' lives as she helped build essential foundation skills needed to accomplish a wide array of gross motor developmental milestones. Marvin, who joined the Stepping Stones and Arc family in 2015, was instrumental leading the schools staff of more than 20 and founded the Dads Night Out program for fathers of Stepping Stones students. The Arc of Essex County thanks both for their tremendous service and hard work.

### **Are you interested in volunteering at the Stepping Stones School?**

The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School, a school for children with intellectual and

developmental disabilities is seeking volunteers for the 2018-2019 school year. Stepping Stones, located in Roseland NJ, serves children from birth to ten years of age. A unique aspect of this program involves a one-on-one student to volunteer concept for many of the children. This is accomplished with the assistance of volunteers from local communities.

Volunteers are needed for weekday mornings and afternoons. A commitment of ½ day per week, the same day each week from September to June is required. Please contact Judy Bellina, Volunteer Coordinator at [jbellina@arcessex.org](mailto:jbellina@arcessex.org) or 973-535-1181 ext. 1223 for more information.

## ***Adult Recreation Program***

### ***Enjoys a Day Down the Shore***

On Sunday, June 3rd, members of The Arc of Essex County's Adult Recreation program took a trip to the shore at Point Pleasant. After enjoying a stroll on the boardwalk, participants enjoyed lunch and played games in one of the many seaside arcades.

Do you have a loved one interested in The Arc of Essex County's Adult Recreation Services? Check out our Spring 2018 Recreation Catalog, [available here](#), then reach out to The Arc of Essex County's Manager of Community Supports Services, Dacia King-Sarkodie, to learn how you can enroll - [dking@arcessex.org](mailto:dking@arcessex.org) or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1272.



## ***Registration Now Open for 5th Annual***

### ***Uncorked & Uncapped: Wine, Beer, and Food Fest***

The Arc of Essex County will celebrate the 5th Annual Uncorked & Uncapped: Wine, Beer, and Food Fest at a new and larger venue—The Wilshire Grand Hotel in West Orange, NJ. Taking place on Thursday, September 27th from 6:30-9:30 p.m., attendees will experience three hours of uninterrupted tastings from Northern New Jersey's premier restaurants and wine, beer, and spirits distributors!

Besides sampling vendor fare, attendees can enjoy live music, entertainment, auction, and more! This year's event features returning fan favorites like made-to-order mini donuts from Glazed & Confused and delicious, specialty cocktails from Tommyrotter. New vendors include Pierogies House, Hoboken Brewing Company, Bira 91, and exotic ciders from Cheval Rouge Imports.

Registration for the 5th Anniversary event is now open. Tickets can be purchased for \$100 and include unlimited food and drink tastings. For additional details, to view a full listing of vendors, and to purchase tickets for the buzzed-about Uncorked & Uncapped community event, visit the event website at [www.uncorkedanduncapped.com](http://www.uncorkedanduncapped.com).

For inquiries about becoming a vendor, contact Maria Meizoso at 973-535-1181 x1227 or [mmeizoso@arcessex.org](mailto:mmeizoso@arcessex.org).

For inquiries about becoming a sponsor, contact Heather Comstock at 973-535-1181 x 1224 or [hcomstock@arcessex.org](mailto:hcomstock@arcessex.org).



## ***Large Crowd Gathers for Annual Membership Meeting***

### ***Financial Planning Workshop***

More than 50 members of The Arc of Essex County attended the Annual Membership Meeting & Free Financial Planning workshop hosted on Monday, June 18th at the main office in Livingston. Presented by Paul Prior of Hinkle, Fingles, Prior & Fischer, P.C., the discussion focused on Financial Planning in the Fee-for-Service World.



Throughout the evening, attendees learned about the importance of guardianship, ABLE accounts, trusts, and estate planning for families of individuals with special needs. To view Paul Prior's presentation, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about how the fee-for-service transition will impact services for your loved one, contact The Arc of Essex County. Enquiries regarding adults ages 21 and over can be directed to Senior Director of Supports Program Services, Melissa Soules, at [msoules@arcessex.org](mailto:msoules@arcessex.org) or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1262. Enquiries regarding children under the age of 21 can be directed to Director of Children and Family Services, Laurie Best, at [lbest@arcessex.org](mailto:lbest@arcessex.org) or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1264.

## ***The Arc of Essex County Residential Corner - July Openings***

For individuals seeking a community living placement, The Arc of Essex County has the following July 2018 openings:

### **Only One Spot Remains! The Park Place Apartment Program**



The Arc of Essex County has one placement for a female resident remaining at our newest property – The Park Place apartment program. Creating six supervised and supportive living apartments for The Arc of Essex County and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, this newly constructed, apartment style living community is located in Irvington. Contact us if you are interested in openings.

## Respite Group Home



Are you heading out of town for an upcoming business trip, wedding celebration, or planning a medical procedure that requires overnight or rehab recovery? Do you need coverage for your loved one with an intellectual or developmental disability? The Arc of Essex County's Respite Group Home can help. Accommodating up to 6 residents, the home is designed to provide a caring and supportive stay during planned or unplanned respite events. The home features:

- 24/7 Staff Supervision
- Large, 2-Story, Single Family, Colonial-style Home
- Designed to create a family-like setting in which consumers can feel comfortable until they transition into permanent housing or return home
- Staff is prepared to manage behavioral issues and additional supports based on the needs of the individual

## Maplewood Supervised Apartments (1 Female Vacancy)



- 24/7 Staff Supervision
- Condo-style Living in a 3rd Floor Unit with Elevator
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance to Maplewood's downtown shopping & restaurants
- Neighbors are younger and enjoy socializing and participating in community events

## South Orange Supportive Living Apartment (2 Vacancies)



- Minimal Community Living Support Needs; Access to an Emergency On-Call System for Added Safety 24 Hours a Day
- Apartment-Style Living in 5-Floor Building
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance to South Orange's vibrant downtown

#### **Maplewood Supportive Living Apartment (2 Vacancies)**



- Minimal Community Living Support Needs; Access to an Emergency On-Call System for Added Safety 24 Hours a Day
- Townhome-Style Community
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance of Maplewood's downtown shopping & restaurants

For additional information about The Arc of Essex County's residential services, [click here](#). If you are interested in pursuing independent living at one of the above properties, please contact The Arc's Director of Residential Service, Rebecca Lorusso via email at [rlorusso@arcessex.org](mailto:rlorusso@arcessex.org) or by calling (973) 535-1181 ext. 1270.

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## **Calling all Golf Enthusiasts!**

### **Get Your Raffle Ticket Today**

The New Jersey State Golf Association Youth Foundation is selling raffle tickets that are a



golfer's dream. Proceeds from the raffle will fund organizations including The Arc of Essex County. Each \$50 ticket will enter you for a chance to win one of the following:

- **Grand Prize** – 2 nights and 4 rounds of golf for 4 at Colonial Williamsburg Resort.
- **2nd Prize** – Set of Callaway Rogue Irons
- **3rd Prize** – (4) Tickets Northern Trust Championship
- **4th Prize** – Club Fitting courtesy of Club Champion Golf
- **5th Prize** – Odyssey White Hot Rx Putter
- **6th Prize** – Peter Millar Golf Outfit

To purchase a ticket please contact Heather Comstock at [hcomstock@arcessex.org](mailto:hcomstock@arcessex.org) or by phone at 973-535-1181x1224. Drawing will take place on Monday, July 23, 2018.

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## Tributes from Spring 2018

Tributes are a beautiful way to acknowledge those you care for, and at the same time, help further The Arc's mission. To purchase a tribute, please call Ann Burleigh at (973) 535-1181 ext. 1245 or visit The Arc of Essex County's website [here](#).

### SPECIAL OCCASIONS:

#### **In Honor of Lily Bohon**

Ms. Lorraine Kiernan  
Mrs. Susan Moseson

#### **In Honor of Susan Hammer**

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Ostrowsky  
Ms. Trudy Slater

#### **In Honor of Jo-Ann Raines**

Ms. Shelley Jacobs

### MEMORIALS:

#### **In Memory of Arthur Bergman**

Ms. Susan Allen  
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Applebaum  
Ms. Nancy Bigelow  
Mr. Kenneth Bogert  
Ms. Christine Briggs  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Brotman  
Ms. Ann Burleigh  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Butler  
Ms. Marylou Crummey  
Mr. and Mrs. John Daudt  
Ms. Minerva Delgado  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dreifus  
Ms. Margery Gering- Feinberg  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ianacone  
Ms. Fran Kraver  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Lev  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Levine  
Ms. Arlene Long  
Ms. Linda Martino  
Mr. and Mrs. John O'Brien  
Ms. Elizabeth Oravetz  
Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Pantazes  
Ms. Jan Press  
Ms. Arlene Roth  
Mr. Gary Russikoff

Ms. Leslie Ann Skurla  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stuart  
Ms. Lynn Tull

**In Memory of Rose Milici**

Mr. William Davo  
Ms. Claudine Kam  
Mr. and Mrs. Orest Kucyna

**In Memory of Carol Sexton**

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gialanella

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**Stay Connected!**

