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September 2015

Fall Greetings from the Chief Executive Officer, Roz Rubin –

Hello newsletter readers. We spent the Summer dreaming of *pancakes*....honest! That's because shortly we will greet you at **GWArc's 45th Annual Harvest Breakfast**, hosted again this year (for the 14th year!) at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Waltham. We want to make our 45th a special day, more special than it usually is for all of us at GWArc and in the community. You will get to hear from some Waltham residents who started Harvest Breakfast (then known as "Pancake Harvest") and view our Harvest Breakfast Through the Decades posters. We have searched the archives for photos and flyers from the earliest events and those will be on our large video screens in both the Ballroom and adjoining Hastings Room. And, there is great excitement here about your complimentary souvenir of this remarkable milestone event. A flyer to order tickets is inside this newsletter. So, all I can say is....**SEE YOU THERE.**

We are also kicking off a year of celebration of GWArc's 60 year anniversary—at our Annual Meeting on November 9, you will meet the families of our founder and other supporters. Community heroes—businesses, volunteers and other contributors to GWArc's successes—will be recognized, as well as a salute to our staff. Details inside, please join us.

This Fall newsletter contains our Summer wrap up in pictures. Yes, the participants had fun this Summer and kept busy with volunteering, community trips and some great outdoor activities. The two GWArc vans were on the road, and you can see the miles were well spent in trips for Day Hab, EPT and Recreation Programs.

A team from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) visited GWArc for two days in August to conduct a re-accreditation survey of our Day Habilitation and CBDS day programs. This survey is conducted every three years. We are certain their final report will re-certify our programs and reflect GWArc's strengths and conformance to quality standards.

Enjoy the newsletter and see you at Harvest Breakfast on October 18—save me a pancake!!!

Regards,



Roz Rubin and Brien Durkee, Purple Heart recipient and Afghanistan war veteran, visit with Scout, Brien's service dog in training. Roz sold **BARK@GWArc** dog biscuits, made by GWArc participants, at a fundraiser for Brien in August. All proceeds benefited training for Brien's service dog.

Roz Rubin

Roslynn Rubin, Ed.D
Chief Executive Officer

In Loving Memory...John L. Battaglini 1935-2015

We are deeply saddened by the death of John L. Battaglini, longtime GWArc friend, benefactor and parent of a GWArc participant, who passed away in August. John was extremely generous and dedicated to developing and supporting GWArc. He served as President of GWArc's Board of Directors from 1976-1979 and as a Board Member for multiple terms.

GWArc's Blanche I. Battaglini Center, which houses our Community Based Day Supports (CBDS) and Employment programs, is named in honor of John's late first wife Blanche, a founding member of GWArc. John was a leader of the campaign to raise funds for renovation of this facility at 31 Woodland Road, Waltham and supported GWArc in countless ways over many years.

"John always said 'Honey, you gotta dream big'," Roz Rubin, GWArc CEO, reminisced recently. "As a tribute to John and his contributions to GWArc and the community," Roz added, "we have established the John L. Battaglini Award, which will be awarded to a deserving recipient each year at our Annual Meeting, beginning this November."

John will be deeply missed.



John Battaglini watches as his son Joel cuts the ribbon at the dedication ceremony for the Blanche I. Battaglini Employment Training Center in May 2002. Other family members and Waltham Mayor David Gately look on.



Pictured above in 2013, John Battaglini presents a check to CEO Roz Rubin from The Battaglini Family, Titanium Sponsor of Harvest Breakfast. The Battaglini Family has been a generous sponsor of GWArc's annual Harvest Breakfast community fundraiser for many years.

GWArc Staff Updates

Welcome to:

- Liz Cavano, new Day Habilitation Case Manager, who joined GWArc this Summer. Liz initially came to GWArc as a volunteer in our Day Hab program
- Suizan Morgan, new Community Based Day Services (CBDS) Case Manager
- Amanda Zhu, new Day Habilitation Developmental Disabilities Assistant

Congratulations to:

- Maurice Carter, who has been promoted to Lead Case Manager, CBDS
- Jerry Marcel, who transferred from his position as Site Supervisor at Brandeis University to the new Site Supervisor position at Babson College
- Stanley Soko-Samba, who transferred from his position as CBDS Case Manager to Site Supervisor at Brandeis University

Harvest Breakfast Turns 45!

We're gearing up to celebrate our **45th Annual Harvest Breakfast on Sunday, October 18!** The event was originally started 45 years ago by the Waltham Lions Club to raise funds for GWArc. The first breakfast was an all-day affair held at Waltham's Central Junior High School, with Lions Club members volunteering as chefs and servers. The premier event raised over \$4,000.

Coining of the event's original name, "Pancake Harvest", is credited to Tony Mangini, who in addition to being a Lions Club member, played an active role at GWArc and is now an Honorary Trustee.

The event was later sponsored by Friends of GWArc,



Vintage Harvest Breakfast photo: Lou Nocera is served pancakes by Thomas Pinzone, Charles Manero, former Waltham Mayor Arthur J. Clark and Joseph O'Connell

a group of dedicated volunteers,

and was renamed "Harvest Breakfast" in the 1980s. After many years at Waltham schools, Harvest Breakfast was moved to Embassy Suites (formerly Doubletree Guest Suites) in 2002.



Getting ready for Harvest Breakfast! Roz Rubin checks out Harvest Breakfast preparations in the Embassy Suites kitchen with James Beatty, Executive Chef, and Samantha George, Director of Catering.

Today, Harvest Breakfast is GWArc's signature annual fundraising event. Embassy Suites Boston/Waltham generously hosts the event, donating the venue, food and service. All proceeds from sponsorships, ads, ticket sales, silent auction and more directly benefit GWArc programs and services.

GWArc is grateful to the Waltham Lions for initiating this signature event, and we look forward to recognizing some of the founding members at this year's 45th Annual Harvest Breakfast!

Thank you, Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation!



Jeanne Travers of the Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation (left) and David Felton, Rockland Trust Vice President, present a check to Roz Rubin, GWArc CEO, and Bob Young, GWArc CFO.

Be on the lookout around town for our silver van, with the signage "GWArc Van Donated by Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation". We were thrilled to receive a \$27,000 grant from the Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation for our 12-passenger van (nicknamed "Silver Bullet") that transports our participants around Waltham and beyond.



GWArc participants rode in the van to a celebration event at Rockland Trust, Main Street, Waltham in July.

GWArc Summer Fun ...



GSE and CBDS participants attended a cheese tasting event with Roz Rubin at Woodland Road in June. Everyone tasted various cheeses from all over the world and voted for their favorite (goat cheese was the winner).



Chestnut Street became a concert hall as a quartet from the Waltham Philharmonic performed for delighted participants during an afternoon in July. Musicians included (left to right): Michael Lavalle, First Violin; Stephanie Schaffhausen, 2nd Violin; Brian Schaffhausen, Viola; and Emily Eng, Cello.



Day Habilitation participants and staff member Peter Cohn enjoyed a fun and educational tour of Watertown Savings Bank in August. Our thanks to Watertown Savings for providing these popular tours!



The Hall at Patriot Place was a popular destination for CBDS participants this Summer.



Barn Babies visited Woodland Road in August, bringing lots of baby bunnies, kittens, a chicken, pig and goats for participants to hold and interact with.

EPT Picnic at Lake Cochituate



Food, fun, games and swimming were enjoyed by everyone at EPT's Summer picnic at Lake Cochituate in Natick.



... In Photos!

Summer Celebration at Chestnut Street



The promise of surprise guests for our outdoor Summer celebration in August had participants and staff speculating for a week on who it would be.

Anticipation turned to delight when surprise guest James Dichter, known as "Bubbleguy", arrived and began creating bubbles of all sizes and shapes that floated through the air (above left). To add to the fun, everyone enjoyed a treat from Alex's Ice Cream Truck (above right).

Our late Summer celebration ended with drumming and singing with Mace Miller (right), who played lots of audience favorites and special requests under the shady canopy.



Recreation Program participants (left) enjoyed a day trip to the Festival by the Sea in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA in August.



Day Habilitation participants (left) posed with staff from The Micheli Center for Sports Injury Prevention following their last exercise session in August.



Dan Dressler, volunteer art instructor (in checked shirt) worked with participants on a collage project inspired by artist Robert Rauschenberg. Sessions were held in each program room at Chestnut Street in August.

GWArc Program Updates

Day Habilitation:

- A reminder that Day Education has a new name—Day Habilitation (Day Hab for short)
- We enjoyed a “S’moresgasbord” party with s’mores of all kinds in June, organized by Liz Cavano, our former volunteer who is now a Case Manager
- Four Day Hab participants took part in an individualized exercise program at The Micheli Center in Waltham during July and August. Each received expert fitness instruction and had a great time. A second group will begin in September
- Two groups toured Watertown Savings Bank in July and August. They were able to see inside the vault and hold lots of money!
- The Waltham Philharmonic String Quartet presented a beautiful music program at Chestnut Street in July
- Art instructor Dan Dressler introduced the art of collage to participants in August
- Laraine Bogosian and her dog Ashley of the Pets & People Foundation visited in August, along with musical artist James Jones
- We enjoyed a late Summer celebration outdoors at Chestnut Street, with visits from surprise guest “Bubble Guy” and Alex’s Ice Cream truck. Mace Miller wrapped up with a singing and drumming session

Community Based Day Supports:

- CBDS participants took 2 separate trips to Patriot Place in Foxboro to visit the Hall at Patriots Place. Everyone enjoyed the interactive exhibits and seeing the Super Bowl trophies and New England Patriots memorabilia!
- Participants fed and groomed horses at Hybrid Farms in Acton, and interacted up close and personal with many other farm animals. For some, it was the first time they got to pet a horse!
- Two groups visited the USS Constitution, where they toured the museum and enjoyed a picnic lunch
- CBDS and GSE participants and staff enjoyed the Annual Picnic at Lake Cochituate in August. The weather was perfect; we enjoyed delicious food, wiffle ball, Frisbee, swimming (and a few water balloons)
- Our Meals on Wheels volunteer group delivers meals to elderly and home-bound people twice a week; many participants report that this is their favorite activity
- Lead Case Manager Maurice Carter started a new volunteer group, which shops for ingredients, prepares meals and delivers to the Salvation Army
- CBDS participants visited the zoo and had a great time seeing the variety of animals; this visit was followed by a visit from Barn Babies to Woodland Road in August
- EPT participants also exercised at The Micheli Center
- After caring for our garden all Summer, we are enjoying harvesting the vegetables and herbs and using them in delicious cooking projects!

Group Supported Employment (GSE):

- We added a new worksite at Babson College with one site supervisor and four employees
- The GSE Semester Break program was held at Woodland Road while college worksites were closed during late Spring and Summer. See the details on page 7

Individual Supported Employment (ISE):

- Several participants are working independently in the community with GWArc support, and additional candidates will soon be ready for a job
- We continue to seek jobs in the community. Please contact Dave Damon, Employment Coordinator, at 781-899-2206 x 224, ddamon@gwarc.org if you can help

School to Work Transitions:

- 30 students are enrolled in School to Work Transitions for the 2015-2016 school year
- Our Transitions Summer Program ran for 4 weeks in July. See photos and details page 7

Adult Family Care (AFC):

- AFC is now supporting over 40 members, with 2 more in the pipeline
- AFC staff will attend the Abilities Expo in Boston and Shared Living Conference in Marlboro this Fall

Recreation:

We had an active fun Summer filled with trips and fun classes! Highlights include:

- Weekend overnight trip to Jellystone Park in New Hampshire
- Exciting WWE wrestling event at TD Garden
- Fun-filled Summer Dance where everyone showed off their new moves from Dance Class
- Concerts on the Common, Mini Golf, Canobie Lake Park and more....

We are already off and running to take advantage of the nice Fall weather, with many outdoor activities and an emphasis on appealing to a wide range of interests. Activities include: trip to an apple orchard, Fall sports, music and drama, cooking, medieval faire and more....

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Watch City Self Advocates:

- Our August meeting featured guest speaker Alexandra Danielle Patrick (Dani) from REACH, who spoke about healthy boundaries in relationships
- September’s meeting focused on voting, how to register to vote and current legislation we should be aware of.



Rotary-GWArc Day of Service for Waltham Food Pantries

Eight GWArc participants and four staff members had a busy and successful day of shopping for and delivering groceries to Waltham food pantries on July 20 as part of our **Rotary-GWArc Day of Service**. Using \$900 donated by members of the Waltham Rotary Club, participants shopped at Waltham's Market Basket in the morning and later delivered groceries to food pantries at Bristol Lodge, Community Day Center, Sacred Heart Church and Salvation Army.



GWArc participants, staff and Rotary Club members gather outside Market Basket with full shopping carts to donate to local food pantries.

GWArc collaborates with the Rotary Club of Waltham to support 4 local food pantries in Waltham. Rotary members donate funds at weekly meetings and GWArc participants shop for and deliver food to the food pantries. This collaboration helps Rotary members support Waltham residents in need, and provides a volunteer opportunity for GWArc participants to be out in the community performing an important community service. Rotary Members have donated approximately \$2,000 for food pantries in the last year.



Ken Doucette and staff member Bobby Ghorieshi are ready to check out.



At left, Roz Rubin reads a proclamation from Waltham Mayor Jeannette McCarthy in recognition of the Rotary-GWArc Day of Service while Dan Messina, Waltham Rotary Club President (left) and Mike Dunleavy, Waltham Market Basket Manager, look on.

Transitions Summer Program

Students spent four weeks in our Transitions Summer Program in July. Students cleaned dorm rooms, performed maintenance and served lunch at the Whittemore Elementary School through a partnership with the Waltham Boys & Girls Club. They also participated in community trips and shopped for and prepared a weekly healthy meal. Our thanks to Bentley University for donating the space for this program.



Transitions students (front row, left to right) Nicole Legere, Katie Hernandez and (back row, left to right) , Derrik Lopez, Rose Calixte and Xavier Terrelagne gather at Bentley University.



Nicole Legere cleans a dorm room.

At right, Derrik Lopez chops vegetables in preparation for the students' healthy meal.



GSE Semester Break Program

GSE participants enjoyed a fun and educational summer while participating in our Semester Break program. They took trips to sites in Boston and Waltham, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Fire Museum, Faneuil Hall and the Lyman Estate.



The GSE crew enjoys a "Buns, Beans and Bingo" celebration at Chestnut Street. A barbecue lunch of grilled chicken sandwiches, baked beans and watermelon was followed by a rousing session of Bingo, with great prizes for all.

Outdoor activities included fishing and hiking to Boston Rock on Prospect Hill.

Participants also worked on cooking projects, travel training, human rights training and the "Circles" curriculum on healthy relationships.

Looking forward to Harvest Breakfast, they tie-dyed cotton napkins and baked **BARK@GWArc** dog biscuits to be sold at the event.

GWArc

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We're Going Green!

If you would like to receive our newsletter by email instead of a printed copy, please email us at gwarc@gwarc.org or call 781-899-1344 ext. 0.

We're on the web!
www.gwarc.org



Scan with your smartphone to visit our website!

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Join Us for this Milestone Event - Our 45th Year!

**GWArc's
45th Annual Harvest Breakfast
Sunday, October 18
8 AM - Noon
Embassy Suites Waltham
Cheers to 45 Years!!**



Three ways to order tickets:

- **Complete and return enclosed ticket order form**
- **Call 781-899-1344 x0**
- **Visit www.gwarc.org to order tickets online**

We are seeking Harvest Breakfast sponsors and advertisers!

Support individuals with disabilities in the Waltham community!

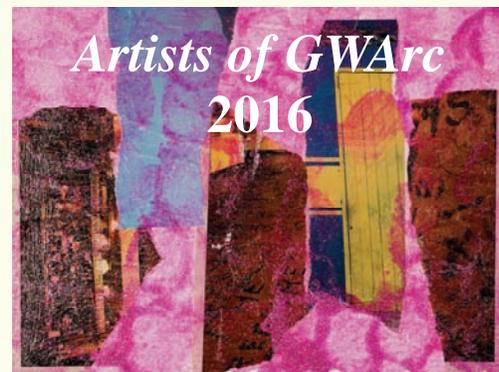
If you or someone you know would like to be a Harvest Breakfast sponsor or advertiser, please contact Joanne Raymond, 781-899-1344 x4147, jraymond@gwarc.org or visit www.gwarc.org for more information.

Artists of GWArc

2016 Calendar Coming this Fall!

Our 2016 calendar features amazing art work by GWArc participants, including collages, painting and photography.

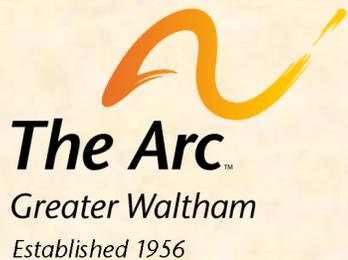
The calendar will be available for sale for \$10 at Harvest Breakfast and Annual Meeting (while supplies last).



Shop Early for the Holidays at the GWArc Holiday Boo-tique!

Join us at GWArc's 45th Annual Harvest Breakfast on October 18 and get some holiday shopping done, too! The Boo-tique, as always, will feature GWArc participant made crafts, including notecards with original art work and photographs, tie-dyed napkins, hand painted ceramics, tile trivets, sewing kits and more! All items are gift wrapped and ready to go!





Greater Waltham Arc's 45th Annual Harvest Breakfast Cheers to 45 Years!!

Sunday, October 18, 2015 8:00 am – Noon
Embassy Suites Waltham
550 Winter Street, Waltham MA



Join Us for this Milestone Event—Our 45th Year!

~Food/Entertainment~
BACK THIS YEAR!! Photo Booth
Bountiful Buffet Breakfast
Music by DJ Richard Profita
Line Dancing with Marilyn
Magician Balloon Animals
Face Painting Mystery Gifts
Silent Auction

<p>Titanium Host</p>  <p>EMBASSY SUITES® Boston/Waltham</p>	<p>Titanium Pancake Sponsor</p> <p>The Battaglino Family</p>	<p>Gold Pancake Sponsors</p>  	<p>Gold Pancake Sponsors</p>   	<p>Media Sponsor</p> 
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To order your tickets by mail, please return this form with a check to:
GWArc, Inc.
 56 Chestnut Street
 Waltham, MA 02453

For more information, call 781-899-1344 x0, email gwarc@gwarc.org or visit www.gwarc.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Adult Tickets _____ x \$24 = _____

Number of Senior/Special Needs Adult Tickets _____ x \$17 = _____

Number of Children under 12 Tickets _____ x \$12 = _____

SHARE A MESSAGE!!

“Family/Friend Sponsor Message” _____ x \$35 = _____

(Your name and optional message of your choice will be showcased in our visual ad presentation.)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please consider donating tickets back to the agency that will allow participants and staff to attend who otherwise might not be able to! Thank you!

Number of tickets donated _____

All proceeds from Harvest Breakfast directly support GWArc's programs, which serve over 300 children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families each year. GWArc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



GWArc 2015 Annual Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2015 6 PM - 8 PM
Embassy Suites, 550 Winter Street, Waltham

~ Community Awards to Be Presented ~

“Rags” LaCava Community Service Award - The Waltham Group of Brandeis University

Volunteers of the Year - Marilyn Lefort and Bernadette Bourque

Community Service Award - Kelly Cronin, Community Relations Manager, Watertown Savings Bank

Special Recognition Award - Stewart Woodward

Business of the Year Award - Andrea Sbordone, Director of Life Enrichment, EPOCH of Weston Senior Living

Employer of the Year Award - Terry Sutherland, Customer Service Manager, Shaw’s, River Street, Waltham

Outstanding Community Leadership Award – Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation

David Felton, Vice President, Rockland Trust

Self Advocate of the Year - Joe O’Connell

~ Keynote Presentation: “GWArc: Past, Present and Looking Ahead”~

As we prepare to celebrate our 60th year in 2016, hear from special guests:

- Meet the Past
- View the Present
- Look into the Future

Presentation of 1st Annual John L. Battaglino Award

GWArc is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families since 1956.

For more information, contact GWArc at: (781) 899-1344 (781) 899-8555 TDD gwarc@gwarc.org www.gwarc.org