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The Family Buzz

Bancroft's Electronic
Communication for
Families.

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Our school's new bulldog mascot -- Spike -- poses with Bancroft President Toni Pergolin (left), Senior Learning Consultant Sue Powell (right), and students (from left) Dalton Stilts, Cassandra Olivas, Nicky D'Ambrosio, and Eric Panetta.

Introducing Spike -- The Bancroft School's new mascot!

It all started with a research project...

The Bancroft School's mascot has long been a bulldog - but until recently, we had to borrow the canine costume from Haddonfield Memorial High School.

Now, thanks to students who were researching local sports team logos and mascots, we have our very own Bancroft Bulldog.

"When the kids learned we didn't have our own mascot costume, they began raising money to buy one," notes staff member Sue Powell, who is overseeing the research

**Free family forum on
'life beyond school'**

Upcoming Events

Monday, June 20

7 - 8:30 pm

**Bancroft School
Graduation**

Contact: Carla Riley

Phone: (856)

524-7341

Email: criley@bnh.org

Wednesday, June 29

8:30 am - 12 pm

**Clarence York
Lecture**

The Power of

Now/Making

Wellness a Priority

Contact: Sue Crouse

Phone: (856)

348-4010

Email:

scrouse@bnh.org

Wednesday, June 29

Family Welcome

Orientation

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Location: Farrington
building, Haddonfield
Campus

Contact: Kathy

Nazarok

Phone: (856)

524-7366

Email:

knazarok@bnh.org

**Saturday, September
24**

10:30 am - 3 pm

Bancroft Day

Location: Challenge
Grove Park, Cherry
Hill, NJ

Contact:

Debbie Conner

Phone: (856)

524-7023

Email:

dconner@bnh.org

project and helped lead the mascot effort.

"The students collected donations via a collection jar in Sweet Success (our campus convenience store) and had several very successful bake sales sponsored by Student Council, Carol Bober's class and Sherri Colan's class."

Our students also got a lesson in democracy, by voting on their favorite name for the furry character. The winning moniker -- Spike -- beat out such entries as Garth, Maggie, Sarge, and Watson.

Meanwhile, the students will continue working on their research project into next year, and then enter it in the CyberFair competition. Past Bancroft teams have placed highly in this international event, which requires students to create a website from their research findings.

Welcome, Spike, and thanks to all who brought you here!

Bancroft named contractor for new veterans (VA) brain-injury program

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has approved Bancroft to provide brain-injury rehabilitation services to veterans through a new pilot program.

The VA's initiative - called the Assisted Living for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury Pilot Program (AL-TBI) - identifies Bancroft as a "participating contractor."

As such, Bancroft is authorized to provide residential services for VA-enrolled veterans with traumatic brain injuries (TBI). The VA will fund these services, which we offer at our Cherry Hill, Mullica Hill, Brick and Plainsboro, N.J., sites and in surrounding areas.

"Veterans are in great need of these types of rehabilitation programs, which help people regain daily living skills and other functional abilities," says Cynthia Boyer, Ph.D., Bancroft's senior clinical director of brain injury programs. "Whether a veteran is injured in combat, or through an accident or illness even years later, Bancroft can now help vets get their lives back through these services."

Indeed, after people with TBI leave the hospital, they typically still need to relearn how to function at home and in their community, regain work-related skills, and develop strategies to compensate for memory loss, thinking difficulties and other effects of their injury.

"Bancroft programs are designed specifically for this purpose, and have an excellent track record of success," Dr. Boyer notes.

Bancroft offers a broad range of rehabilitation options for adults with brain injuries, based on each person's needs and abilities, including residential, day treatment, vocational, in-home and outpatient programs. Services include cognitive rehabilitation, physical, occupational and speech therapies, and psychological counseling.

For more information on Bancroft Brain Injury Services, call Lynn Tomaio at (856) 616-6454, or [click here](#).



Bancroft student-employees honored at luncheon

The Bancroft School recently recognized 31 graduating students for their work-related accomplishments, at our annual Graduate Luncheon.

Michael Smith displays his award at The Bancroft School's recent luncheon for graduating students.

Nicholas DiBartolomeo received the award for Most Outstanding Graduate, while Peter Keppel earned the Most Improved Graduate award. They each received a trophy and \$25 gift card, and all graduates received a certificate of achievement.

Several of the students' employers also attended the luncheon, which was held in the school gym and served by the program's food-service class.

Congratulations, graduates!



Golfers sign in with their "team captains" - photos and messages from 13 people in Bancroft programs, each assigned to a specific foursome. Our outing drew other VIPs, too, notably former Eagles player Ken Dunek and N.J. Assemblyman Louis Greenwald. For more photos, [click here](#).

Golf outing 'wonderful'

"Yesterday was a wonderful day. I golfed, I met new friends, and I helped celebrate a well-deserved cause."

-- Tom Csapo, Freedom Builders, via email

Sixty-nine golfers took on the challenge of Galloway National Golf Course -- one of the nation's best -- during Bancroft's 2011 Golf Invitational near Atlantic City last week.

"Everyone met the challenge at varying levels of success, but everyone seemed to enjoy the experience!" says event organizer Deb Conner. In addition to a top-notch course, golfers enjoyed a nice dinner, and many won their share of \$3,500-plus in awards and prizes.

The event grossed more than \$64,000, exceeding the \$50,000 goal. But just as important, the outing introduced new friends and supporters to the organization.

"The highlight was the Captains' Challenge," adds Ms. Conner, referring to a special initiative designed to connect golfers to people who benefit from the outing.

Each foursome was assigned a "team captain" - someone from one of 13 Bancroft programs. The captains, although not in attendance, provided written information about themselves and their photo. Each captain also rolled a die, and the resulting number was deducted from their team's score for the "Captains' Challenge."

Winners were as follows:

- Individual Low Gross: Brett Bernosky of VFIS
- Individual Low Net: Jeff Heppard of KDA Architects
- Captains' Challenge Team Winner: Mike Davis, Joe Harvey, Stephen Pergolin, Jack Tarditi (the Conner Strong & Buckelew foursome)

Thank you to all golfers, volunteers and other participants, and to the following corporate sponsors:

Marquee Sponsor

- Costanza Builders

Heritage Sponsors

- Conner Strong & Buckelew
- Stewart Business Systems
- The Graham Company

Landmark Sponsors

- Carlisle & Associates
- Holman Automotive

Captains' Challenge Sponsor

- All Risk



Happy birthday, Margaret Bancroft!

This month we celebrate the birth anniversary of our founder, Margaret Bancroft, who was born June 28, 1854.

Margaret was a pioneer in special education, founding one of the first private schools in the country for children with developmental disabilities 128 years ago, in 1883. (She was only 28 or 29 at the time!) Bancroft is still based in the same town - lovely Haddonfield, N.J.

On this 157th anniversary of Margaret's birth, we thank this remarkable woman for all she did in her lifetime, and for all she made possible in ours.

To read more about Margaret, [click here](#).

To view an excerpt from the book "Margaret Bancroft: Teacher with a Dream" by Sister Krista Mote, [click here](#). To purchase a copy or for more information, please contact Sue Crouse at (856) 348-4010 or email scrouse@bnh.org.

Get healthy! Help your loved ones, yourself

Our June 29 lecture will show you how

Join us on Wed. June 29 when national health expert James H. Rimmer, PhD, teaches us how to improve our own health and that of the people we support.

Dr. Rimmer will give the keynote address at our spring Clarence York Lecture, titled "The Power of Now / Making Wellness a Priority." His talk will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Bancroft staff members and others who support health and wellness among people with disabilities.

The event will be held from 9 am to noon (registration starts at 8:30) in the community room of the Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Road (at Kings Highway) in Haddonfield, N.J.

Panelists will include:

- Keynote speaker James Rimmer, PhD - professor at the University of Illinois, Chicago
- Caroline Eggerding, MD - Bancroft's chief medical officer
- Panel moderator Robert Trombley - registered dietitian at Bancroft
- Roberta Kramer - Bancroft School physical therapist
- Derrick Jeter - program manager for Bancroft's Community Residential Services for Adults
- Thomas Folcher - senior program associate for Bancroft Brain Injury Services

For the lecture brochure and registration form, please [click here](#). Or, call Sue Crouse at (856) 348-4010 or email scrouse@bnh.org.



Transforming Our World

The Campaign for Bancroft

Technology a top priority for campaign

Bancroft's Transforming Our World campaign -- our most ambitious fundraising effort to date -- is focused on three vital priorities:

- facility enhancement
- technology
- our Annual Fund

Of these three priorities, technology will have the broadest impact - potentially benefiting every person supported by Bancroft. To learn more about this vital priority and its organization-wide importance, please [click here](#).

For more information on Transforming Our World | *The Campaign for Bancroft*, register for our campaign blog at CampaignforBancroft.org. Or, call Linda Wasilchick, director of campaign operations, at (856) 348-4002.

President updates families on key initiatives

Bancroft President Toni Pergolin recently wrote to each Bancroft family and/or guardian, to update everyone on important advances and changes within the organization.

In case you missed the letter or would like another look, you can view it by [clicking here](#).

The update covers:

- Bancroft's new "vision" -- **to be the elite provider in our region** by 2014

- Our new board chairman, Kennedy Health System President and CEO Martin A. Bieber
- Our new customer-service initiative, called I CARE, designed to help us **exceed stakeholder expectations**
- Executive staff changes to help better position us for the future
- The "Transforming Our World" campaign. To view the campaign newsletter, please [click here](#).

"We are strongly focused on planning for Bancroft's continued success for many, many years to come. I am confident we will achieve these goals," writes Ms. Pergolin.

As always, she welcomes your feedback at tpergolin@bnh.org.

Know a student with disabilities who'd like to go to college?

Check out our new program at Camden County College

A few weeks ago, we told you about an exciting new partnership: The Bancroft Transition Program at Camden County College.

We now have a fact sheet that offers more details - just [click here](#).

The program offers a meaningful college experience to students who traditionally have not had this opportunity, while preparing them for adult lives and employment. It's available to students with disabilities who have not yet graduated from secondary school, ages 18 - 21.

"Post-secondary education is a most important key to shaping a new reality for people with disabilities," notes Meg Grigal, Ph.D., author of Think College! "It has the exciting potential to create a future based not on low expectations - the can'ts and the shouldn'ts - but on the high expectations of productivity and personal and economic freedom."

Questions? Call Pat Reid at (856) 524-7453 or email preid@bnh.org.

Reminder: Family Welcome Orientation on June 29

All family members and guardians -- even if you're not new to Bancroft -- are invited to our regularly scheduled Family Welcome Orientations.

The next one is Wed. June 29 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Farrington Building on our Haddonfield Campus.

For more info or to RSVP, contact Dr. Dan Keating, v.p. of family services and government relations, at (856) 524-7366 or email KNazarok@bnh.org.

North Jersey theater offers shows for children with autism

Two North Jersey theater groups presented a show last week that they adapted for children with autism.

The Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, N.J., and the Pushcart Players of Verona plan other adapted shows for October and next April.

To view a New York Times article on this effort, please [click here](#).

Latest issue of DDD Today

The new edition of DDD Today, a publication of the N.J. Division of Developmental Disabilities, features the following articles and more:

- NJ Self-Directed Supports Conference A Success
- State Officials Celebrate Autism Awareness Month
- Community News
- News from our Developmental Centers
- NFL Player's Fdtn Supports NJ Families Affected by Autism

To view the newsletter, [click here](#).

If you have questions, comments or suggestions, or wish to request a subscription, email DDDnewsletter@dhs.state.nj.us.

Free family forum on 'life beyond school'

Families will speak about innovative day service options, including employment and other meaningful activities, at this free event:

Life Beyond School: Creative Options for Meaningful Activities after Education

Tues. June 28

2 - 5 pm

Newark, NJ

The forum is sponsored by the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Registration is required. For a flyer with more details, [click here](#).



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