



## In This Issue

[School launches weekly training sessions on technology](#)

[Staff member receives prestigious award -- and more](#)

[Bancroft teacher takes part in Chamber institute](#)

[Free annual workshop series kicks off next month](#)

[Get ready for National DSP Week](#)

[Future physicians volunteer at Bancroft](#)

[Know a financial advisor?](#)

[Walk for brain injury](#)

[Free autism-related events at Camden County College](#)

[New issue of Arc newsletter](#)

## Upcoming Events

**Wed., Sept. 21**

6:30 - 8:30 pm

**Free DD Workshop:  
College Preparation  
for Students with  
Intellectual  
Disabilities**

**Location:** Farrington  
Building, Haddonfield  
Campus



**Techie team:** Bancroft School staff members are all smiles at a training session on using iPads in the classroom. (Even this picture was taken with an iPad.) Clockwise from top left: Holly Blackiston, Rosita Alexander, Jakie Pawling, Diane DeSantis, and Trish Carr.

## School launches weekly training sessions on technology

The Bancroft School recently began training staff members to use iPads and other high-tech devices to help students learn.

For instance, the "iPad Breakfast Club" is held every other week. On alternate weeks, a session called "Bytes and Bites" takes place. A weekly email also summarizes each session.

The classes are conducted by Beth Greer and Norm Rothstein,

**Contact:**  
Pat Reid  
**Phone:** (856) 524-7453  
**Email:**  
[preid@bnh.org](mailto:preid@bnh.org)

**Saturday, Sept. 24**  
**Note earlier date!**  
10:30 am - 3 pm  
**Bancroft Day**  
**Location:** Challenge Grove Park, Cherry Hill, NJ  
**Rain date: Sept. 25**  
**Noon - 4 pm**  
**Contact:**  
Debbie Conner  
**Phone:** (856) 524-7023  
**Email:**  
[dconner@bnh.org](mailto:dconner@bnh.org)

**Friday, Oct. 7**  
8:30 am - 12:30 pm  
**Clarence York Lecture**  
**"Autism and Severe Behavior Problems: A Focus on Prevention"**  
**Contact:**  
Sue Crouse  
**Phone:**  
(856) 348-4010  
**Email:**  
[scrouse@bnh.org](mailto:scrouse@bnh.org)

**Wed., Nov. 16**  
6:30 - 8:30 pm  
**Free DD Workshop: Challenging Behaviors in the Classroom**  
**Location:**  
Farrington Building, Haddonfield Campus  
**Contact:**  
Pat Reid  
**Phone:**  
(856) 524-7453  
**Email:**  
[preid@bnh.org](mailto:preid@bnh.org)

**Saturday, Nov. 19**  
6:30-11:30 pm  
**Butterfly Ball**  
**Location:**  
The Merion Cinnaminson, NJ  
**Information:**

Bancroft's assistive-technology specialists.

At a recent Breakfast Club meeting, the group reviewed an app called "Cookie Dough," which is "most enjoyable and great for fine motor skills," says Ms. Greer. Another app she demonstrated, Dragon Dictate, converts a speaker's words into text (a.k.a. voice recognition).

During the training, the group also reviewed part of this PowerPoint presentation from the June conference of the International Society for Technology in Education: [iPads with special Ed students.ppt](#).

The following week, the school's Bytes and Bites session covered "Choose It! Maker 2" -- software that turns text, images and sounds into choice-making activities and quizzes that can be accessed via a mouse, whiteboard, touch monitor, keyboard or switches.

"Technology offers so many advantages for our students," says Mr. Rothstein. "It engages them and holds their attention, and opens doors that have previously been shut."

Adds Ms. Greer: "The iPad, in particular, can be a potential game-changer for individuals with disabilities."

To learn how Bancroft is raising funds for such technology -- and to support these efforts -- please visit Bancroft's campaign blog at [www.CampaignForBancroft.org](http://www.CampaignForBancroft.org). Or, contact Linda Wasilchick at (856) 348-4002 or [lwasilchick@bnh.org](mailto:lwasilchick@bnh.org).

For another story on how technology can benefit people at Bancroft, see "More 'technology transformations' planned" below.



Mary Brownsberger, Psy.D., ABPP.

Psychology (Division 22).

The award is presented to clinicians who have made a significant

## Staff member receives prestigious award -- and more

Bancroft neuropsychologist Mary Brownsberger, Psy.D., ABPP, has earned a major honor from the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Brownsberger, who works for Bancroft Brain Injury Services, recently received the "2011 Early Career Practice Award" from the APA's Division of Rehabilitation

[ButterflyBall@bnh.org](mailto:ButterflyBall@bnh.org)

contribution to the practice of rehabilitation psychology, and who have earned their doctorate degree within the past ten years. Rehabilitation psychology focuses on assisting people with brain injuries or illness in achieving optimal physical, psychological and interpersonal functioning.

In fact, it's been a big year for Dr. Brownsberger, who works primarily in Bancroft's Plainsboro, N.J., brain-injury program: She earned her board certification in rehabilitation psychology in February, and recently was elected to a three-year term as a member-at-large of Division 22's Executive Board.

Kudos, Dr. Brownsberger!



Teacher Sean Carmack (right) is joined by Bancroft President Toni Pergolin (center) and Bancroft's director of elementary education, Jacqui Milligan, at the Summer Institute.

## **Bancroft teacher takes part in Chamber institute**

Bancroft School teacher Sean Carmack was one of 14 South Jersey educators to participate in the Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey's Summer Institute - a prestigious, three-week program that links teachers and businesses.

The institute takes participants to 12 companies, where they learn about the needs of today's employers so they can incorporate that knowledge into their teaching. One stop on this year's tour: Virtua's new, state-of-the-art hospital in Voorhees, N.J.

Congratulations, Mr. Carmack!

## Free annual workshop series kicks off next month

Bancroft's 2011-2012 workshop series on developmental disabilities starts in September.

The first session - titled "College Preparation for Students with Intellectual Disabilities" - will be held on Sept. 21. All workshops take place on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Farrington building on the Haddonfield Campus.

This workshop will focus on the unique needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who wish to attend college, the academic, communication and social skills required for success, remedial or preparatory courses available to increase entrance scores, the application process, financial assistance and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) policies and regulations that assist students.

The series, which runs through April, will also cover:

- challenging behaviors in the classroom
- teaching children with Asperger syndrome in public schools
- planning for the needs of adults with autism (new this year)
- bullying from a legal and educational perspective
- effective goal-writing for IEP success
- medical developments in the biology of autism

Advance registration is requested; call Pat Reid at (856) 524-7453 or email [preid@bnh.org](mailto:preid@bnh.org). For all workshop dates and descriptions, [click here](#).

Watch for updates on our website, [www.bancroft.org](http://www.bancroft.org).

## Get ready for National DSP Week *Thank a direct support professional!*

National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week starts Sunday Sept. 11 - and we're asking all Bancroft families to help us celebrate.

We all know how much of a difference these very special people make in our loved ones' lives, so please take a moment now to think about how you can thank them.

Here are a few suggestions for how you can show your appreciation:

- Write a Respect Card (an official note of recognition based on Bancroft's core values) to a particular staffer or group of employees. [Click here](#) for the form.
- Send a fruit basket, bring in baked goods or order pizza for a group.
- Just say THANK YOU!

National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week began in 2008, thanks to a resolution by the U.S. Senate. Here's an excerpt:

"This resolution will draw positive attention to the millions of professionals across the country who help support individuals living with disabilities. They often work long hours with little pay, but their contributions are critical. Today we recognize their dedication and vital role in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages."

Thank you in advance for showing your appreciation for our DSPs!



**Getting physical:** Volunteers from the UMDNJ School of Medicine tend to the landscaping at Bancroft's Flicker Residences.

## Future physicians volunteer at Bancroft

A group of first-year medical students, alumni and others from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey recently volunteered at our Judith Flicker Residences in Voorhees.

But instead of stethoscopes and tongue depressors, their tools were wheelbarrows and shovels.

"We held a 'garden work party,'" says Flicker activities director Linda Miller. "A group of about 45 UMDNJ volunteers helped us move rocks and soil to improve drainage, reduce erosion, and prepare the grounds for new plantings."

For a newspaper article about the activity, please [click here](#).

For additional pictures, please [click here](#).

Thank you, volunteers and UMDNJ - and good luck!



## More 'technology transformations' planned

Funds raised through the Campaign for Bancroft will support state-of-the-art technology organization-wide - from iPads to interactive "smart boards." (See top story.)

But one of the biggest planned advances will be more behind-the-scenes: an electronic medical records (EMR) system.

An EMR, common in health systems across the nation, allows "real time" access to key information about each person Bancroft helps.

Implementing an EMR at Bancroft will greatly reduce the time staff spend on paperwork, and increase the time available to work directly with the people we support, helping them reach their goals and improve their quality of life.

It will also allow immediate access to information for emergency-room visits, doctor visits and hospital stays. It will be easier to communicate to medical providers and easier for any medical changes to be communicated to the entire team that is supporting an individual.

At Bancroft, numerous people work on a team -- including nurse case managers, physicians, direct care and administrative staff. One of our major challenges is that team members are often geographically isolated from each other and from printed medical records. An EMR will enable everyone to see information at any time, from anywhere, and in a consistent manner, solving many communication challenges and improving care.

An EMR will also assist with strategic planning. By providing accurate statistics, it will help us better project future needs for staffing, facilities and programming. With an EMR, we will be able to plan the most appropriate clinical services, smooth individuals' transitions from one program to another, and reduce the potential for errors and omissions.

Want to help? Please call Linda Wasilchick at (856) 348-4002 or email [lwasilchick@bnh.org](mailto:lwasilchick@bnh.org).

## Know a financial advisor?

Bancroft is holding a free seminar on **Tues. Sept. 13** for financial planners, certified public accountants, and trust and estate attorneys. The purpose: to introduce these professionals to Bancroft and show how their clients can leave a lasting legacy here, while achieving their personal estate-planning goals.

The session will include a presentation on Bancroft by our president and CEO, Toni Pergolin, and a tour of our Haddonfield Campus.

If you would like to invite your financial advisor to this event -- or for information on our Jacob Schaefer Legacy Society -- please contact Heidi Rixman at (856) 348-1164 or [hrixman@bnh.org](mailto:hrixman@bnh.org).

To view the seminar invitation, please [click here](#).



## Walk for brain injury

Bancroft is assembling a team to walk in the N.J. Brain Injury Association's "Walk for Thought" on Saturday Oct. 1.

The event raises funds and awareness for brain-injury related causes.

Please consider joining us for this meaningful activity! For details, call Bancroft's Debbie Conner at (856) 524-7273 or email [dconner@bnh.org](mailto:dconner@bnh.org). For the walk flyer, [click here](#).

## Free autism-related events at Camden County College

The Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility at Camden County College will present a series of free events for "teachers, friends and family members" of those with autism.

The series launches on Sept. 22 and concludes Nov. 15. It features a variety of film screenings and presentations on weekdays from 6:30 to 9 pm.

For the series brochure, [click here](#).

## New issue of Arc newsletter

The Aug./Sept. issue of the Arc's newsletter, "Prevention Counts," includes:

- International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Day (It's Sept. 9 - 9/9 - to promote the message of going nine months alcohol-free)
- Upcoming research on fetal alcohol spectrum disorders
- August is Immunization Awareness Month: Are you up-to-date?
- U.S. Department of Agriculture has launched a revised campaign or better nutrition
- An important opportunity to update your information in the Arc's records

To read the publication, [click here](#).



Try it FREE today.

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