



Rabbi Evan Jaffe 1952-2015

Lamenting the Passing of a Champion for Intellectual Disability Rights

From the Desk of Robert A. Pruznick, CEO

*"Too soon tomorrow/Nighttime delay its pace/Too soon tomorrow becomes yesterday" -
Brewer & Shipley*

I first met Evan at an organizational meeting for Open R.O.A.D. (religious organizations accepting disabilities) that was convened at the old synagogue in Flemington in 2000. Tom McKenna, the executive director then at The Arc of Hunterdon invited me to attend this meeting based on my academic background and subsequent lifelong interest in religion. We were hoping to facilitate inclusive faith communities by providing the critical ingredient of transportation. Over the intervening fifteen years this small but mighty nonprofit corporation demonstrated the practical human worth of this endeavor. Throughout this span the enterprise was driven in large part by the good Rabbi's passionate ecumenical quest for welcoming congregations. As president he raised money, organized and personally directed the paratransit services.

Rabbi Jaffe was introduced to our population at the Hunterdon Developmental Center in Clinton where he served as chaplain. He was so intent on giving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities access to the full breath of their faith traditions that he arranged to have an adult non-ambulatory resident transported by gurney to his new building in Flemington to undergo the bar mitzvah, coming of age ritual he should have received when he was thirteen. Morris, whom I cared for in 1973 when I worked as an institutional attendant at the Hunterdon State School as it was known then, was totally delighted by his formal acceptance into the Jewish Community Center. This was one example of Evan's diligence to include everyone in their choice of worship settings. He also brought the calendar of religious observations to students at the Matheny School and duplicated his chaplaincy at the Greenbrook Developmental Center. In every possible venue he demonstrated the sweetest pastoral care of those with cognitive impairments.

(Continued on page 2)

Arc Recreation, Camp Warren Made the Summer of 2015 One to Remember!



Summer 2015

Arc Recreation Services Had a Busy Season Staying Healthy, Making Friends, and Generally Having a Grand Time!



While the 2015 Summer Season was capped off by the annual Step Up for The Arc 5K and Fun Run, there was much, much more to a very busy year for Arc Recreation Services. Throughout the year, participants enjoyed Healthy Life Club weekly, Yoga classes, an Iron Pigs baseball game, a wide variety of social activities, sports training and competition, Special Olympics, Camp Warren, cooking classes, and more. As we enter a new year of activity, we look forward to October's cruise and the startup of the program's menu of activities. For more information, please contact Recreation Services Director Meghan Moyer at 908-689-7525 x256.

Rabbi Evan Jaffe, *continued from front*

Evan was especially active in the Coalition for Inclusive Ministries, a statewide project initiated at the Boggs Center/ University Center on Disabilities by Reverend William Gaventa to reinforce those congregations across the state that authentically actualized the creed of God's love for all his children. Additionally Rabbi Jaffe helped to orient divinity students to the community systems of support so that the next generation of religious leaders would be familiar with current theory and best practice.

Evan never hid behind a wall of scholarship or piety – he joyfully embodied the term “mensch” and embraced life with all its imperfections. He was extremely accessible – we often enjoyed lengthy, deep conversations over a world of topics. I learned much from such a personable “teacher” who never lectured but rather shared insights and revelations. It was my great good fortune that our lives intersected. He was a beacon of light and love and I counted him, as many did, as my own “Rabbi”. I doubt I will find another like him in this world.

Grand Harvest Wine & Music Festival



Sunday, Sept.27, 2015

Noon to 6 p.m.

Rutherford Hall, 1686 Rt. 517, Allamuchy, NJ 07820

Great Wines!

Brook Hollow Winery, Villa Milagro Winery, Cava Winery, Ventimiglia Vineyard

Craft Beers!

Outstanding Music!

The Royal Dumonts, Steve Kirchuk Trio, Brian Kathenes, Grace Jensen,
Michael Long, Electric Gumbo, B.D.Lenz

Gourmet Food Trucks!

Craft & merchandise vendors! Local food vendors!

Tickets and info: grandharvestwinefestival.com

Event benefits NORWESCAP, The Arc of Warren County, and WNTI 91.9

Brought to you by:

 PNC BANK





Your Clean, Gently Used Clothing, Shoes, Appliances, Toys, and Household Textiles, That Is!

The Arc's Millenium Clothing and Textiles Bin, which had been located in the parking lot, has found a new home at The Mediterranean Bistro, 301 W. Washington Avenue, Washington, just up the street from The Arc offices.

Please feel free to continue dropping your donations off anytime. And, please remember us when you begin your fall cleaning! You can donate clothing, shoes, household textiles such as blankets, bedding, curtains, etc. You may donate toys as well, as long as they are small enough to fit through the chute. Please, no perishables or breakable items. All donations are given by Millenium to people in need, and The Arc receives a cash donation in return.

While you're there, enjoy a fine meal and cocktail at The Mediterranean Bistro—always a good friend to The Arc.

Help Us Recognize Outstanding Service and Accomplishment!

We are planning The Arc's Annual Awards Program and Dinner and hope to have YOUR input for selection of award recipients. Please see the awards nomination form attached to this newsletter and return it to The Arc ASAP. You will see a Sept.11 deadline; however, a grace period has been granted in order to receive and review all nominations.

Save the Date!

Rossi Family Festival of Trees Dec.10th

THE ARC OF WARREN COUNTY

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**SINCE 1954,
PROVIDING QUALITY
SERVICE AND SUPPORT
TO PEOPLE WITH
INTELLECTUAL AND
RELATED
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES.**

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The Arc Foundation



We'd like to thank all who helped make our 20th Annual Golf Classic a success in August, with a special shout out to Event Chairman John Costea. John and his wife, Pam, have been involved with The Arc for many years on behalf of their son Matt. True to form, John and his son Dan were among 5 foursomes from Picatinny Arsenal who have supported this event from the start. We can't thank them enough for their continued support and the love they show for John and family and for The Arc.

In other Foundation news, we have wrapped up a number of major fundraising events and are in the process of reaching out to Arc families to offer assistance with their estate planning needs, particularly in regard to a family member with disabilities. We'll also be talking about how our families can make provisions in their wills and other financial plans that not only meet the future needs of their surviving family members with a disability, but also provide a charitable gift to The Arc to help it continue to provide the quality service and support it has been known for since 1954.

For more information, please contact The Arc Foundation at 908-689-7525.