



Dear Friend of the ADC,

December is flying by and we have many things planned to celebrate the upcoming holidays. Would you consider joining us for one of our special events? Our annual holiday Friends-and-Family Reception is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. The craft bazaar will be open Wednesday, December 10th through Friday, December 12th. If you are out shopping on Saturday, December 13th, please stop in for refreshments and to see our current exhibition of paintings from the Raritan Valley Art Association.

As 2014 comes to an end, I would like to share some highlights with you. We have increased our daily attendance to 70-75

members per day without compromising the quality of our care. County and state funding remained level. Our two fundraising events raised \$110,000 towards operations (up \$30,000 from 2013), thanks to the dedication and perseverance of our planning committees. Depending on the results of our "The Face of Caregivers" year-end appeal, we hope to finish the year with a balanced budget.

We attribute all of our success to our dedicated volunteers, to our compassionate staff and to our devoted caregivers. We could not do it without all of you! Speaking on behalf of my colleagues, we are thankful to be able to come to work every day, build relationships with our members and support the efforts of our caregivers.

I wish you a happy holiday season, good health and success in the New Year.

See you at the ADC!

Sincerely,

Diann Robinson  
Executive Director



Member Roseann Johnson with her daughter and daughter-in-law



**In This Issue:**

- \* ADC is getting ready for our Craft Bazaar and Friends-and-Family Holiday Party.
- \* NJ Secretary of Agriculture participated in a Horticultural Connections Workshop.
  - \* Representatives from the Grotta Fund visited the ADC.
- \* Raritan Valley Art Association Exhibition Open House on December 13th.
- \* Give a Gift of Care to "The Face of Caregivers" Campaign
  - \* Caregiver Support Group will meet on December 13th.
  - \* Special December Programs.

**Regular features:**

- \* Caregiver Café is open on Fridays.
- \* RSVP for a Third-Thursday Tour.
- \* Join us as a "Birthday Buddy" on a Fourth Friday - Sponsors are needed for 2015.

### **ADC will host its Annual Holiday Craft Bazaar and Family-and-Friends Reception**

Our annual craft bazaar opens the morning of December 10th for members and their families. Our "inventory" includes crafts made by our members and those donated by our families and volunteers. A family-and-friends preview is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on December 10th, and the bazaar is open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on December 11th through December 12th. Proceeds from sales go toward next year's Craft Room and Cozy Kitchen budgets.

Our Family-and-Friends Reception is scheduled for December 10th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will start with appetizers followed by dancing to the music of DJ Joe and dessert. We will be taking family portraits compliments of Life Inspired Images. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 9th. This is a great event for family members and caregivers to get to know the ADC staff and other caregivers.



*MaryAnn Royce-Koehler is pictured here with her team getting ready for the craft bazaar. Pictured from left to right: Anne Prentice, Volunteer; Rita Lonie and Betty Mount, Members; MaryAnn Royce-Koehler, ADC Craft Director and Anne Morrone, Member*

## **NJ Secretary of Agriculture Participates in Horticultural Connections**

Last month, we were joined by Dominick Mondì, Executive Director, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association; Jack Otterbein, President, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association; NJ Senator Kip Bateman (District 16); NJ Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher and NJ Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Al Murray for our October Horticultural Connections workshop. Our visitors talked to workshop participants and learned about how they are benefiting from the program. Additional photographs of the visit can be viewed [here](#) on our Facebook page.



*Pictured from left to right: Nikki Hoffman, ADC Program Assistant; Dominick Mondì, Executive Director, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association; Diann Robinson, ADC Executive Director; Laura DePrado, Final Touch Landscaping and ADC Horticultural Therapist; NJ Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher; Senator Kip Bateman (District 16); NJ Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Al Murray; and Jack Otterbein, President, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association*

## Representatives from the Grotta Fund Visited the ADC

Last month we were joined by representatives from the Grotta Fund for Senior Care, the funders for the horticultural connections program. Through this funding, the ADC staff is providing workshops twice a month, establishing relationships with community partners, and educating staff and volunteers about the therapeutic benefits of horticultural therapy. We are partnering with the New Road School of Somerset, whose student volunteers assist the therapist with preparation and implementation of each workshop.



*Pictured from left to right: Member Rita Lonie; Dominick Mondì, Executive Director, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association; Cathy Kuttner, Board Member, Grotta Fund for Senior Care of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ; Renie Carniol, Executive Director, Grotta Fund for Senior Care; Jack Otterbein, President, New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association, Nikki Hoffman, ADC Program Assistant; Nina Guerriero, ADC Member; Diann Robinson, ADC Executive Director and Laura DePrado, Final Touch Landscaping.*



Exhibition Organizer Alka Dalal is pictured with fellow artist Diana Patton.

### **Raritan Valley Art Association Exhibition Open House on December 13th**

Our Fall Exhibition of paintings by the Raritan Valley Art Association continues through the end of the month. The Association was incorporated in 1939 and is comprised of professional artists from Somerset County. If you haven't already, please stop by and check out their work. You can see the show during business hours Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday, December 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **Give a Gift of Care to "The Face of Caregivers" Campaign**

If you aren't quite sure what to get friends and family for the holidays, perhaps you would consider giving a "Gift of Care" to the ADC's "The Face of Caregivers" Year-End Campaign. This campaign is our pledge to provide

for the financial stability of the Center, and is allowing us to offer quality day care services to all who need them.

Here are some examples of how your donation will help:

- \$50 would help provide one day of care or cover the cost of cake and refreshments for the members' monthly birthday celebration.
- \$100 underwrites the fee for musical entertainment during our afternoon program or would cover the cost of food for a month of meals in the Cozy Kitchen.
- \$150 sponsors an entire "birthday buddy" celebration including cake and presents.
- \$250 would provide a week of care at the ADC giving a caregiver a break from their full-time responsibilities.
- \$500 allows us to bring a professional art instructor to lead a monthly workshop for 12, and to purchase materials each month.
- \$1,000 provides a month of care for an elderly or disabled adult, providing a break for their family member who is his or her full-time caregiver.

Thank you to Bob Albano for his donation that will be directed toward purchasing the remaining items on our 2014 wish list. An earlier donation from the Gibson Family purchased a vacuum and coffee maker. We will publish our 2015 wish list early next year.

To donate, please contact Hilary Kruchowy at [\(908\) 725-0068](tel:9087250068) or email [hkruchowy@adulthoodcenter.org](mailto:hkruchowy@adulthoodcenter.org). Secure online donations can be made at [www.adulthoodcenter.org](http://www.adulthoodcenter.org). Our Federal Tax ID number is 222-111-573.



**Isabel Mendrick and her daughters**

### **Caregiver Support Group will meet on December 13th**

The Caregiver Support Group will meet on Saturday, December 13th. We will be joined by an educator from the New Jersey Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Please RSVP to Stacy Scelfo or Diann Robinson if you are planning to attend, or if you plan to stay for lunch, to [\(908\) 725-0068](tel:9087250068).

The schedule for the first quarter of 2015 has been set for these Saturdays:

- January 10
- February 14
- March 14

### **Special December programs**

This month we will be celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah and getting ready for the

New Year. We will be hosting our annual holiday Family-and-Friends Reception on

December 10th, and our Christmas Concert with Gary Morton on December 22nd. This month, members are taking van trips to Target, Panera Bread and the Christmas Tree Shop. Creative Notions will be here on December 16th, and Horticultural Therapy Workshops will take place on December 9th and December 17th.

### **List of activities**

- December 9th - Van trip to Target & Horticultural Connections
- December 10th - Craft Bazaar opens
- December 10th - Holiday Family and Friends Reception
- December 11th - Craft Bazaar
- December 12th - Craft Bazaar
- December 12th - Caregiver Café
- December 12th - Welcome Bob Conrad - Holiday Magic Show
- December 13th - Caregiver Support Group and Open House for RVAA exhibition
- December 16th - Creative Notions
- December 17th - Horticultural Connections
- December 17th - Board of Trustees Meeting
- December 18th - Third Thursday Tour
- December 18th - Van Trip to Panera Bread
- December 19th - Van Trip to Christmas Tree Shop
- December 19th - Caregiver Café
- December 19th - Monthly Birthday Party
- December 22nd - Christmas Concert with Gary Morton
- December 23rd - Santa Visits
- December 24th - ADC Closed for Christmas Eve
- December 25th - ADC Closed for Christmas Day
- December 26th - Bingo Bonanza
- December 30th - New Year's Eve party with DJ Joe
- December 31st - ADC Closed for New Year's Eve
- January 1st - ADC Closed for New Year's Day

## **Regular Features**

### **Caregiver Café is open!**

The Caregiver Café is hosted by Linda Lee, a Center caregiver and volunteer, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Stop by and meet other caregivers who are facing the same challenges as you. This month the Café will be open on Friday, December 12th, December 19th and December 26th.

### **RSVP for a Third-Thursday Tour**

Please join Executive Director, Diann Robinson, on a Third-Thursday Tour this month on December 18th. Upcoming dates for 2015 include January 15th, February 19th and March 19th. If these dates don't work, give us a call and let us know when you are available.

### **Become a "Birthday Buddy" (Sponsors needed for 2015)**

Each month, usually on the fourth Friday, we celebrate members' birthdays. The responsibilities of the sponsor include purchasing and wrapping gifts (minimum value of \$15, usually for 7-8 members), bringing a sheet cake and sugar-free cookies, and joining us for the party on the designated date from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sponsors present the gifts and join in on the overall celebration and dancing. If we don't have a sponsor, the ADC purchases the birthday gifts. If you aren't able to participate as a group, would you please consider a gift card to Walmart, Target or Kohls? Any amount is greatly appreciated.

Last month's birthday party was sponsored by Board Member Lynn Fazen and Director of Development Hilary Kruchowy and their families. The December birthday party will be sponsored by Somerset Valley Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

Upcoming dates (can be changed for a group):

January 30th

February 27th

March 27th - reserved

To publicize the event, we take photographs at the party and send out press releases to the local papers. We put photos on our Facebook page that currently has almost 350 followers, and include the story in our e-newsletter that currently has nearly 750 active addresses.



*Pictured left to right: Vince Patullo (member), Board Member Lynn Façen and Iuminada Diaz, Julia Dorf and Theo Bladzinski (members)*

**\* About the newsletter**

Please email Hilary Kruchowy at [hkruchowy@adultdaycenter.org](mailto:hkruchowy@adultdaycenter.org) if you have any suggestions about future features. Please feel free to forward the newsletter to your friends and colleagues. We are trying to build our mailing list. Thank you.

**\* "Like" us on Facebook!**

We update our Facebook pages two or three times a week with news of what is happening at the center. Please "Like" us and check out our photographs. It is a great way to see what your loved one is up to and how they are spending their day.

**\* Mission**

The Adult Day Center of Somerset County, a compassionate community of acceptance, is a non-profit agency committed to providing extraordinary day care services for the elderly and disabled residents of Somerset County, and support for caregiving families.

*Celebrating 37 Years of Extraordinary Service in Somerset County*



**United Way**  
**of Northern New Jersey**  
member agency