



Dear Friend of the ADC,

The winter is flying by quickly, thankfully, and to date we have only had to close one day due to the weather. Despite the cold, we have much to look forward to this month. We will be holding a "Sweetheart Dance" in honor of Valentine's Day on February 13th at 1:00 p.m. and are inviting our caregivers to join us. It will be a special afternoon for all!

If your loved one utilizes Somerset County transportation services to attend the ADC, you recently received a letter about a change in policy. Unfortunately, the County has found it necessary to start charging fees for transportation services. As of March 1st, they will be charging \$2.50 a trip/\$5.00 round trip for transportation to the center. I am sorry that given current economic conditions the county has deemed this necessary. We hope that this will not get in the way of our members attending our program.

Please take the time to read this email. You will find highlights from our 2014 caregiver survey and the list of special February programs. Later this month, we will celebrate: Elvis Presley's 80th Birthday with our regularly featured Elvis impersonator; Black History Month; and Lincoln and Washington's Birthdays.

See you at the ADC and stay safe!

Sincerely,

Diann Robinson  
Executive Director



In This Issue:

- \* Please join us for our Generations Gala on May 28th.
- \* Support Group Meeting is scheduled for March 14th.
- \* Investors Bank Foundation awards grant to the ADC.
- \* ADC announces New Board Leadership.
- \* Thank you to Christine Flanagan for her leadership.
- \* Tom Grady was elected to our Board of Trustees.
- \* Thank you Dale Florio for your years of service.
- \* Stop in to see our winter exhibition featuring Immaculata High School students
- \* Update on Special Contributions.
- \* ADC celebrated Activity Professionals Week.
- \* Feedback from the Caregiver Survey.
- \* Special February 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

**Save the Date for our 2015 Generations Gala on May 28th**

The Generations Gala, our annual fundraising gala, will be held this year on Thursday, May 28, 2015, at the Palace at Somerset Park at 5:30 p.m. This year we will honor Doris Boniakowski Zampella for her loyal and consistent support of the ADC, and Corporate Partner Carolina Wine Brands for their 16 year commitment to our annual wine tasting event.

**About our honorees:**

Doris Zampella of E. A. Boniakowski Insurance Services is our Individual Honoree. A lifelong resident of Somerset County, Doris has been a long-time friend of the ADC, providing financial support to assist in making our day services affordable to families and their caregivers. Doris is the Vice President of Insurance Operations of E.A. Boniakowski Agency, Inc., Partner in Alliance Risk Management, LLC of Manalapan, New Jersey; and Partner in Jazmaz Enterprises operating Rita's Italian Ice franchises in Bridgewater and Somerville. She is 2nd Lieutenant for the Martinsville Rescue Squad. She also serves as a trustee for Empower Somerset; on the United Way Women's Leadership Council; on the Somerset County Business Partnership Board and on the Women In Business Steering Committee. She was honored as a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award, received recognition from the Somerset County Commission on the Status of Women the Shirley Noble Volunteerism Award.



*Pictured left to right: ADC Board member Lynn Fazen; ADC Board Chair and 2014 Gala Honoree Anita Ventantonio; 2015 Gala Honoree Doris Zampella and ADC Executive Director Diann Robinson*

We are also honored to present our Corporate Honoree - Carolina Wine Brands. As you may know, Rich Scelfo and Lucy Lombardi of Carolina Wine Brands have been the featured distributor for our wine tasting fundraising event since 1996. Sixteen years ago Rich and Lucy were introduced to the mission of the ADC, and our goal to provide services to any member even if they can't afford it, by Rich's daughter ADC Social Worker Stacy Scelfo. They understood the challenge of raising funds for a human-service non-profit organization, and they proposed the idea of a wine-tasting event to which they would donate the wine from their prestigious label and offer their expertise in putting together a signature event. Over the past 16 years the ADC has raised more than \$300,000 because of their commitment. We are thrilled to recognize their contributions.



*Pictured left to right: Lucy Lombardi of Carolina Wine Brands with ADC Social Worker Stacy Scelfo and ADC Executive Director Diann Robinson*

**The Caregiver Support Group will meet on Saturday, March 14th**

Our February Caregiver Support Group was held on Saturday, February 7th at 10:00 a.m. Our guest speaker was Eldercare Attorney, Tom Murphy. The March date is set for March 14th. We will announce the speaker and topic shortly. Please RSVP to Stacy or Diann if you are planning to attend. They can be reached at [\(908\) 725-0068](tel:9087250068).

The schedule for 2015 has been set for these Saturdays:

April 11th	September 12th
May 2nd	October 3rd
June 13th	November 14th
July 11th	December 12th

### **ADC Received a grant award from Investors Foundation**

The Investors Foundation recently awarded a \$1,000 grant to ADC. This award will be directed to implementing our Horticultural Therapy (HT) Pilot Program. The ADC staff is providing HT workshops twice a month, establishing relationships with community partners, and educating staff and volunteers about its therapeutic benefits. "The Investors Foundation is dedicated to providing support to non-profit organizations that enrich the communities served by Investors Bank," said Antie Celli of Investors Bank. Antie, Assistant Vice President and Manager at the Pluckemin Branch visited the Center and participated in a Horticultural Connections workshop. We would like to thank Antie for her service on this year's Wine Tasting Committee, for helping us to submit our application to the Investors Foundation, and for serving on our Board of Trustees.



*Top row left to right: Antie Celli of Investors Bank, Laura DePrado (ADC's horticultural therapist) and ADC Executive Director Diann Robinson. Bottom row left to right: ADC Members Pauline Meske and Greg Gibson.*

### **2015 Board Leadership Announced**

The Adult Day Center of Somerset County is pleased to announce the appointment of Board of Trustees Chair, Anita Ventantonio; Vice-Chair, David Tucker; Treasurer, Dave Mendez; and Secretary, Tom Grady. The Board Officers were voted in at the December 17th Board of Trustees meeting. The ADC is thankful to have such dedicated individuals on our Board. The strength of any non-profit social service agency can be found in its volunteer leadership. We are indeed fortunate to have these Board Members lead the ADC.



### **Thank you Christine Flanagan for serving as Board Chair**

Christine Flanagan of Flanagan Contracting in Hillsborough completed her tenure as Board Chair after two years in the leadership position. Under her leadership, ADC held two successful Generations Galas and wine tastings that raised more than \$250,000 in total and hired a new Executive Director after Jeff Macaulay's retirement. We are grateful to Christine for her dedication, thoughtfulness, passion and leadership. She will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees as Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee and member of the Gala and Wine Tasting planning committees.

*Anita Ventantonio, Board Chair, Congratulates Christine Flanagan*

### **Tom Grady was elected to the Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees recently voted Tom Grady of Basking Ridge as its newest member. The Board is charged with setting policy and determining the long-range plan and financial stability of the organization. Tom joins our team of 11 community leaders and representatives.

Tom has worked for the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey for over 12 years. His main areas of expertise are lobbying, speech writing, communications, government relations, training, and fundraising. Tom received his BA from Rutgers University, and Master's Degree in Public Administration from Kean University. About joining the Board, Tom says "I am very impressed with the quality of care demonstrated by the ADC. I am looking forward to jumping right in and serving as the Secretary and getting involved with the Communication Committee."



*Pictured left to right: Member Mary Charenycz and Board Member Tom Grady*

### **Thank you to Dale Florio for his years of service**

We thank Dale Florio for his years of service to the Adult Day Center. In December, Dale completed his fourth term and announced his retirement from the board. Dale joined the board in 2000 and chaired our multi-year Capital Campaign to build our new facility. His contributions were recognized in 2012 when he was the honoree for the Generations Gala. We would not be in our new facility with our increased capacity to serve 80 members per day, without his leadership, tenacity and generosity.



*Dale Florio (pictured second from left) was honored at our 2012 Generations Gala.*

### **Join us to see our Winter Exhibition until February 26th**

An exhibition of art by students from Immaculata High School is currently on view through February 15th. The show includes 26 pieces from 19 different students. Organized by Ms. Deirdre Rosinski, Chair of the Art Department at Immaculata High School in Somerville, it represents work from four different classes including Art I and Art II, Digital Photograph and Digital Design. You can see the show during business hours Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **Update on Special Contributions**

Contributions to the annual fund help us to meet short-term funding needs. They help us to keep our program affordable, and to present special art and music therapy programs. In January, we received a special donation from caregiver and volunteer Linda Lee. Linda read in our newsletter that we wanted to install blinds in the caregiver room and offered to pay for blinds and underwrite the cost of installing them. The caregiver room is used for program space, and in the afternoon we need to keep the blinds drawn so our members don't see the buses lining up to take them home. Thank you to Linda for her generosity!

### **ADC Celebrated our Activity Staff During Activity Professionals Week**

The ADC is lucky to have a loyal team of professionals who are dedicated to the ADC and the members and families we serve. In January we celebrated Activity Professionals Week. This month we take the time to introduce you to them in this newsletter. Jane Kappus, an ADC veteran of 18 years, leads the activities staff. Her team includes Tina Crawford, BJ Jenerette, Angela Scarpati, Cheryl Dolida, Nikki Hoffman and Liza Schmit. Tina Crawford and BJ Jenerette joined the staff in 2002, Angela Scarpati in 2007, Cheryl Dolida in 2013, and Nikki Hoffman in 2014. Mary Ann Royce-Koehler, who has worked at ADC since 1986, is the Crafts Director.



*We are pleased to welcome Liza Schmit to the ADC team. Liza started in January as a full-time activity assistant. A resident of Somerset, she brings her experience as a caregiver, middle school teacher as well as her passion for working with older adults.  
Welcome Liza!*

### **Results of the 2014 Caregiver Survey**

Thank you to all of our caregivers who returned our annual caregiver survey. In all, 41% of our caregivers took the time to provide their feedback. Some highlights include: 100% of our caregivers feel that the Center has been supportive of their needs as a caregiver; 98% feel reduced stress since using the Center; and 89% believe we have helped them to keep their family member at home. Overall the feedback was positive and indicates that we are serving the needs of our members. We will be working to implement recommendations and to move the "very good" ratings to "outstanding." The staff will be looking at the results during our in-service on February 12th.

### **February Programs**

Our monthly calendar can be found by clicking [here](#).

### **List of activities**

- February 13th - Caregiver Café
- February 13th - Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dance with DJ Joe
- February 16th - ADC is closed for President's Day.
- February 17th - Mardi Gras Celebration
- February 17th - Horticultural Connections
- February 18th - Board of Trustees Meeting
- February 19th - Third-Thursdays Tour
- February 20th - Welcome Elvis
- February 20th - Caregiver Café
- February 24th - Van Trip to Walmart and Popeyes
- February 25th - Horticultural Connections
- February 27th - Caregiver Café
- February 27th - Van Trip to A.C. Moore and Pizza
- February 27th - Monthly Birthday Party

### **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 February 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th.

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

Please join Executive Director Diann Robinson on a Third-Thursday Tour this month on February 19th.

Upcoming dates for 2015 include March 19th, April 16th and May 14th. 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. If your budget allows (\$100 - \$125?), you are asked to consider sponsoring an outside DJ who will play the members' favorite songs and keep the party moving. 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.

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, which currently has almost 400 followers, and we include the story in our e-newsletter that currently has nearly 650 active addresses.

Last month's birthday party was sponsored by Lisa and Bill Weber of Bernardsville.

Bill was a member of the Leadership Somerset Class of 2014 and learned about the ADC during a class visit last spring. He read about the birthday parties in this newsletter and offered to host the party with his wife. Our upcoming dates (can be changed for a group) are February 27th and March 27th (reserved).



*Thank you to our Birthday Buddies Lisa and Bill Weber.*

**\* About the newsletter**

Please email Hilary Kruchowy at [hkruchowy@adulthoodcenter.org](mailto:hkruchowy@adulthoodcenter.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. Currently there are 650 names on our 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. To date we are 10 likes away from 400.

**\* 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 38 Years of Extraordinary Service in Somerset County*