



Timelines



JANUARY 2006

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The Entertainer

Tim Scott Creates the Day for Residents and Staff at Brooksby Village's Renaissance Gardens

It's a beautiful thing. The Arc of East Middlesex's vocational staff linked Tim Scott with a volunteer opportunity which allows him to pursue his passion for music and serves as the highpoint of the day for residents and staff at a local nursing facility.

Tim, a 26-year-old graduate of The Berkshire Hills Music Academy in South Hadley, MA, gives four performances weekly at Brooksby Village's Renaissance Gardens in Peabody.

"I play Elvis. Irish Music—they obviously love that. And old time rock and roll," said the singer/guitar player.

Rebecca Alfonso, Program Manager for Renaissance Gardens, has seen Tim's fan club grow in the five months he has been performing at the facility.

"We've actually had to change (the performances) to a bigger room because he's so popular," said Rebecca.

Has she noticed any changes in the residents, who have dementia, since Tim began playing for them?

"They are more alert. They're clapping more. They're talking more," said Rebecca. "He is awesome. The residents love him. He's really started to form some friendships," she added.

"I've heard that staff have been rearranging their schedules to be there when Tim is," said Andrea. Rebecca acknowledged that Tim has a lot of fans among the staff at Renaissance Gardens. "If we're having a bad day and we know Tim is coming, it just turns it all around for us," she said. One staff person whose grandparents were visiting from Nebraska even came in on her day off so that they could see Tim's performance, she added.



A passion for music—
Tim Scott sings and plays guitar for Renaissance Gardens' residents.

Tim, whose studies at Berkshire Hills were focused on the Performance and Human Services Tracks, sees his volunteer work not just as a resume builder, but as an opportunity with immediate benefits.

"It's rewarding. I like what I'm doing," said Tim.

Supporters of The Arc had an opportunity to see and hear Tim and his fellow Berkshire alumni Joel Peterson (who tap dances) in a guest appearance with The Berkshire Hills Music Academy troupe at The Richard Tucker Memorial Dinner in November.

Tim, who learns music by ear, said he now has about 50 songs in his repertoire. One of the newest songs in his Brooksby routine is *Hello Dolly*, which is particularly enjoyed by a resident named Dolly.

"They like to reminisce," Tim said of his audience.

They particularly like to reminisce with Tim.

"He is just a ray of light," Rebecca concluded.

To learn more about The Arc of East Middlesex's employment programs, call Joel Green at 781-944-5655, ext. 5011.

The Arc of East Middlesex Board of Directors

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Timelines is produced by:

Jo Ann Simons, MSW
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Paula Vratos
Administrative Assistant

NEW PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Journey to Independence *RealWorld House*



We had a busy fall, expanding office space and programs to better serve the individuals and families we support. Because of the growth of our programs, we moved our Family Resource Center and Recreation staff to the building next door, at 34 Gould Street. Their phone number and extensions have not changed.

We also launched a new program which has generated a great deal of interest already. In response to the growing interest in teaching older teens and young adults the skills they will need to be as independent as they can be, The Arc of East Middlesex created the Journey to Independence—a new department. Its first program is **The RealWorld House of the Arc of East Middlesex**.

This new program is based on the principle that individuals with learning challenges benefit by continuous reinforcement and the introduction of new concepts. Since the road to independence is a journey and not a short trip, The Arc of East Middlesex's **Journey to Independence** will support and work together with families and schools to achieve positive outcomes for its participants using some of elements of the popular TV show *RealWorld*.

This weekend, school vacation and overnight program will be fun, but its focus will be on the acquisition of the skills necessary to live and work in our community. Using a beautiful home in Andover as our base, we will teach health, money, cooking, cleaning, employment, leisure and safety skills in our own *RealWorld* house.

The home can accommodate 10 participants during the day and sleep 6 participants. In addition to the many teaching opportunities it allows; it also will provide some respite for families. We will offer the overnight programs monthly on the weekends and during selected school vacation periods.

Our goal is that the young people who join us on the **Journey to Independence** will have an easier time making the transition from school to adult life. They will be more prepared for the many changes which occur when school ends and be more confident in what opportunities await them.

Our first weekend was a big success and the second *RealWorld* House event was scheduled for December 27–28, 2005.

We are fortunate to have Nancy Desmond, former Recreation Director, as the Director of **Journey to Independence**. **Journey to Independence** is only one of the programs offered by the Arc of East Middlesex's innovative **TRANSITIONS** division. Other programs include our **School to Work** program which works with local school districts, **transition workshops, independent living** and **individual transition planning**.

Our programs are funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation, local cities and towns, user fees and by the generous donations of foundations, corporations and individual gifts.

To learn more about the **Journey to Independence and the RealWorld House**, call Nancy Desmond at 781-942-4888, ext. 5036. For **School to Work**, call Brian Gordon at ext. 5028; for individual transition planning and information about transition workshops, call Kerry Mahoney at ext. 4015; for Independent Living call Tina Claydon at 4037.

With best wishes for a happy new year,

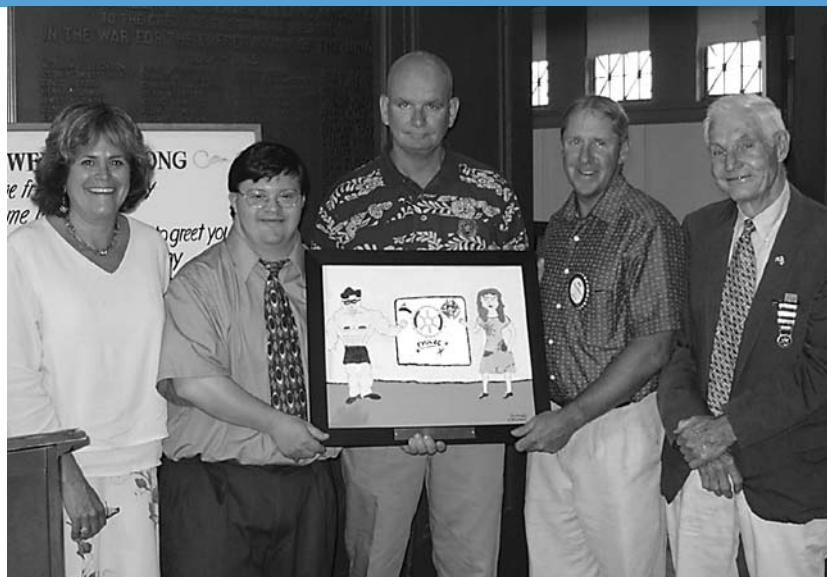
IN MEMORIUM

Remembering Jack Hickey

The Arc of East Middlesex lost a dear friend when John J. “Jack” Hickey passed away unexpectedly on November 30, 2005. Our thoughts are with his wife, Marylynn; daughter, Jane; and the entire Hickey clan.

Jack was a great ambassador for children and adults with disabilities and their families and for our organization. He served as President of the Board of Directors and as a member of EMARC’s Residential Committee for many years. He visited the State House to advocate for funding for our programs. A past president of the Melrose Rotary Club, Jack enlisted the club’s members to donate their time staffing the Gym and Swim program which he founded for adults with disabilities and coordinated for over a decade.

The good work Jack did will be carried on in his memory through the generous support of his family and friends.



Honoring our Melrose Ambassador—This file photo is a good snapshot of Jack Hickey’s ability to bring the community together to benefit people with disabilities. Jo Ann Simons and artist Jeff Caturano visited a Melrose Rotary Club luncheon last year to thank the Knights of Columbus, Melrose YMCA and Rotary Club for the Swim and Gym program Jack (far right) created and the three organizations generously supported.

In Memory of John J. “Jack” Hickey, Jr.

Rita L. Amoroso

Carol M. Barry

Alma Belcher

Janice and Donald Blanchard

Jean M. Bowman

Joan H. and Edward Cassidy

John and Marianna Cerretani

Robert and Eleanor Connors

Lucie and Leonard Cripps

Virginia Garofalo

Martha Gomes

Edward and Eleanor Hickey

David and M. Esther Hopkins

J Michael Hughes

Grace L. Kehler

In memory of John Hickey and in honor of his daughter Mary “Lisa” Hickey

Tara and Russell Klein

Rita A. Lee

Richard and Zaida Mac Donald, Jr.

Jack Hickey was a great husband, father, uncle and friend and above all else—a gentleman who always had the time and a smile for whoever needed it. We loved him and we will miss him greatly. May you rest in peace Jack. The Mac Donalds. Rick, Zaida, Michelle, Harold and Melissa.

Patricia J. Maxwell

Margaret and Charles McCue

Mary T. McCue

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Lincoln and Barbara Mckie

F. Beryl and William Moore

Thomas J. Morris

Gloria & George Murphy

Herbert G. Muse

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Barbara (Atkins) and Samuel Oddo

The Hickey children have been friends of ours for many years and their Dad was truly a great guy.

Dolores and Milton Parks

Ernest and Parke Pendleton, Jr.

Michele Pergola

Virginia L. Perrin

In memory of a truly wonderful man and a great friend.

Leonard J. Peterson

Elena and Andrew Previte

John S. Quinn

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Edith and Irving Smolens

Jean M. Snyder

Marie B. Snyder

Gertrude and Robert Trusselle

Ward Family—Connie, Catherine and Connie Mary

Richard Wayne

F. Peter Waystack

Maureen and John Welch

Gifts through December 14, 2005

Save The Date

Wednesday, January 25,
February 1, 8, 2006
Maneuvering the Maze
7:00–9:00 PM

When a child has special needs locating supports and services can be an overwhelming process! Presenters will provide an overview of available services, and how to access them. Learn about government benefits, family support, leadership and advocacy, working with school systems, and special education laws. This workshop will be led by Lisa Gibbs and Deb Crane, Educational Advocate from the Family Resource Center of The Arc of East Middlesex and Susan Nadworny, Mass Families Organizing for Change. Co-Sponsors Malden-Everett Family Network, Medford Family Network, North Suburban Family Network, and Riverside Community Care. Held at The Arc of East Middlesex. No Fee Contact Kerry Mahoney (781) 942-4888 x 1-4015# or email km@theemarc.org.

The Arc of East Middlesex Is Pleased to Acknowledge Gifts from the Following Donors...

Friends—Gifts up to \$100

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Patron—Gifts \$500 to \$999

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Samantha's Harvest

Tribute Gifts

Use the pledge form on the fundraising page of our website (www.themarc.org) to remember a loved one or honor a friend or relative for a special occasion. We are pleased to acknowledge the following tribute gifts.

Tribute

In Honor of Dennis Dale

The Colonnade Boston

Memorials

In Memory of Armando Bruno

Karen and Thomas Brown

In Memory of Alfonse Chiulli

Mrs. Mary Bruno and Robert

In Memory of John De Luca

Daniel J. and Susan Kirkland

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In Memory of Charles, Lesley and Cubby Kawa

Martha "Marty" Toy

In Memory of Katherine "Kay" Kawa

Anna and Anthony Celata
Margaret DeMelis
Patricia Ford
Martha "Marty" Toy

In Memory of Pamela Lewis

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In Memory of Alice Mac Donald

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In Memory of Margaret Fitzgerald Meier

Marybeth Bayle

In Memory of Mary Moriarty

Mrs. Mary A. Bruno

In Memory of Lillian Palotta

Mrs. Mary A. Bruno

In Memory of Robert E. Radigan

Boston Properties, LP
Edward and Helen Decelle
Carolyn Knox

Gifts received through December 14, 2005

Shop for The Arc of East Middlesex!

Save yourself some time and energy and help The Arc of East Middlesex by buying the items you need and want through our on-line Shopping Village!

You can support The Arc of East Middlesex (EMARC)—at no extra cost to you or us. Just buy your favorite products shopping village at www.greatergood.com/partner/themarc. And up to 15% of the price of your purchases go directly to our organization.

Our shopping village includes brand-name items from leading online retailers like Barnes & Noble.com, Delta Airlines, DisneyStore.com, Dell Home Systems, Coldwater Creek, The Gap, Proflowers.com, and more than 100 more. You don't pay extra to buy things online. And your security and privacy are rigorously safeguarded.

Ready to do a little shopping? Visit our Web site at www.themarc.org, click the online shopping button on the bottom left of our home page, and off you go.

What's more, you'll receive a great retailer special when you register. Please sign up today!



Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed for The Arc of East Middlesex to assist with our Reading Adapted Aquatics program. This is an educational, hands-on experience in which the volunteer will work one-on-one with a child (age 3–12) who has a developmental disability. It will take place at The Burbank YMCA on Fridays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. A new session begins February 17 and runs for 6 weeks. Training is provided. Please contact Chenine Johnson at 781-942-4888 Ext. 4036 or e-mail rec@themarc.org.

The 11th Annual Richard Tucker Memorial Dinner & Auction

Honoring our Community Champions, November 15, 2005, Holiday Inn Select, Woburn

Our signature event featured radio personality Hank Morse, Comedian Tony V, the Andelman brothers of Phantom Gourmet fame, The Berkshire Hills Music Academy performing artists and EOHHS Assistant Secretary Gerald J. Morrissey, Jr. Our new hosts, Marla & Jim Martorilli, overwhelmed us with their generosity and function manager Christopher Raimo took great care of us as always! Members of our Center for Emerging Artists created all of the awards for the event and assisted in their presentation.

We raised over \$76,000 for our programs for children and adults with disabilities.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of our evening!



Corporate Champion—(l to r) Honorary Chairman Dennis Drinkwater, The Arc's 2002 Man of the Year, joins Jo Ann Simons in congratulating honorees Satchi Selliah and Anthony Dietz of A & A Taxi, Inc.



Stoneham Champion—Mark Haggerty (r), General Manager of the Stoneham Independent accepts a collage of headlines and a portrait created in his honor by Jeff Caturano (l) and Julie Feldman.



Moving Tribute—Malden Champion C. Henry "Hank" Kezer (r) is clearly moved by the painting of the Davenport Memorial Foundation created in his honor by artist Jeff Caturano (l).



Employment Partner—(l to r) Joanne Palmer and artist Albert Young thank honorees Erica Ward and Al Zink of Upromise for providing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



MVP—Lynnfield Champion John Mitchell, President of CAM Media, beams after accepting a soft-ball painted with a ball field and his company's logo, by artist Jeff Caturano.



Melrose Champion—Artist Rob Tucker (l) created a unique award for his brother Rick Tucker, President of Tucker's Auto Supply.



Wakefield Champion—Honoree Bob Winsor of Century 21 Greers is congratulated by Jo Ann Simons and Wakefield native Dennis Drinkwater.



Reading Champion—School Committee member Carl McFadden accepts a painting of the new Reading Memorial High School football field from artist Albert Young.



North Reading Champion—Alfred Resteghini presents a tapestry he created for honoree Anthony Cota, Jr., Immediate Past President of The Reading North Reading Chamber of Commerce and President of Cota Funeral Homes.

See
Special Thanks
box on back
page.

The Arc of East Middlesex

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The Arc of East Middlesex Membership Application

Membership includes 10 issues of our Timelines newsletter; the Arc US newsletter; the Arc MA newsletter, The Advocate; access to our Recreation and Advocacy programs; invitations to Arc of East Middlesex events and an opportunity to nominate honorees for our Annual Spring Awards Ceremony.

Name _____

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Please check all that apply:

- Family Member Professional Interested Friend

Family Member Served (used to send mailings for age-appropriate events)

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email rather than regular mail?

- No Yes Email _____

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