



Bob Barclay nominated for Shining Light Award

Submitted by Susan Jellinek

After 14 years as his group leader, I am so pleased to have this opportunity to publicly recognize and honor the remarkable contribution that Robert Barclay has made as a volunteer caregiver for Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony Church. Mr. Barclay, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday, truly is one of the unsung heroes who makes Interfaith Caregivers Trenton the very special program that it is.

Mr. Barclay was one of the very first people to volunteer when Our Lady of Sorrows joined the Interfaith Caregivers' coalition in March of 1995 – he volunteered as a driver, which is always needed. Better yet, because he was retired



(after more than forty years as a research chemist), he was available during regular working hours – which meant that he could take people to doctor's appointments and all those other appointments that are usually scheduled during the weekday. In other words, he was worth his weight in gold.

But, as I soon discovered, there was even more to it than that. Not only was he worth his weight in gold; he had a heart of gold. Although he always insisted that he was "just a driver," it soon became apparent that he was also a very good listener, and he had the patience of a saint. He would wait for hours while one of his care receivers slowly but surely perused every aisle of the ShopRite and the Dollar Store, and when he brought one of his care receivers home from a two-hour doctor's appointment, he would help her back into her apartment, where she lived alone, and stay awhile as she told him stories of her childhood in Trenton.

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Welcome new board member Samantha Szakacs



I first learned about Interfaith Caregivers in St. Gregory the Great's Sunday Bulletin. I was looking for a way to give back to

the community and this organization appeared to fill two voids. First, it allowed me to help elderly individuals that needed assistance with everyday chores or just needed someone to speak with. Second, it empowered me to spend quality time with individuals that closely represent the grandparents I never met. As a child, my family fled Cambodia during the Khmer

Rouge war. Unfortunately my grandparents remained behind.

During spring 2008, I contacted Interfaith about my interest in volunteering.

After training with the organization, I finally got to meet my care receiver. I currently visit her twice a week. My normal visit entails light chores such as taking out the trash, picking up her mail, and straightening her home. But most importantly, I enjoy her company. We enjoy watching game shows, the local and world news, and discussing current events. I also quickly learned that I am no match for her at Wheel of Fortune!

Interfaith Caregivers has given me a little piece of my grandparents while allowing me to give a little piece of my time. I enjoy the experience and look forward to each visit with my new friend. It is my hope that others like me will share in this rewarding experience.

Note: We welcome Samantha, not only as a Helping Hand volunteer, but also as a new board member of ICT. She brings her professional skills in Human Resources to ICT, and also has the distinction of being our youngest board member. We appreciate her enthusiasm, savvy, and energy helping us to plan for the future.





Local Students Help by Sharing Their Love



Students from Thomas Grover Middle School assembling Valentine's Day boxes for our homebound elderly care receivers. Working in teams, they created Valentine's Day gifts with various themes and enclosed original, hand made cards for the elderly.



We are most grateful to Mr. Frank Cincotta and the students who shared their love with seniors in our community.



Are You Missing Out On Up-To-Date Information?

If you are not receiving periodic [email updates and information](#) and would like to get on our email list, please email us at: Beverly@ICTrenton.org and ask to be added on our list. Get updates about community information on events, workshops, health, senior activities, etc. You can also email us with your ideas and comments on how we can better serve you.

MR. BARCLAY, continued from page 1

Mr. Barclay was always there for me and some of our other group leaders. Whenever I was in a pinch and needed someone to drive a care receiver to an important appointment, Mr. Barclay would always do his best to be available.

Mr. Barclay is one of the most modest, unassuming people I know. And so I am especially grateful to have this opportunity to publicly honor and celebrate the wonderful contribution that he has made, both to our program and to the lives of some of our loneliest and most isolated neighbors. Robert Barclay truly represents what Interfaith Caregivers Trenton is all about.

Welcome New Staff!



Gabriela Sikorski Gill
Coordinator of Volunteers Hispanic Outreach

This May, Interfaith Caregivers Trenton hired a new employee to replace Samuel Arroyo. The new Coordinator of Volunteers Hispanic Outreach, Gabriela Sikorski Gill, is a native of Trenton and is excited to work with the Latino community.

She graduated from Rutgers University and taught high school Spanish before having her two children. Having family in Mexico, Gabriela has always enjoyed interacting with Spanish-speakers. This, in conjunction with the advantage of working with such kind people, was something she just could not refuse.

Gabriela is looking forward to meeting the volunteers and working with them. She is in the office Wednesdays and Thursdays each week.

Gabriela Sikorski Gill – Coordinadora de Voluntarios Hispanos

Este mayo, Voluntarios de Cuidados Unidos por la Fe Trenton, Inc. contrató una nueva empleada para reemplazar a Samuel Arroyo. La nueva Coordinadora de Voluntarios Hispanos, Gabriela Sikorski Gill, es una nativa de Trenton y está entusiasmada de trabajar con la comunidad latina.

Se graduó de la universidad de Rutgers y enseñaba el español en el nivel secundario antes de tener sus dos hijos. Como tiene familia en México, Gabriela siempre ha disfrutado relacionarse con hispanohablantes. Esto, conjuntamente con la ventaja de trabajar con gente tan bondadosa, era algo que no podía rechazar.

Gabriela espera conocerlos a los voluntarios y trabajar junto con ellos. Está en la oficina los miércoles y los jueves.



What is Project Connect?

Did you know that Interfaith Caregivers Trenton partners with seven other area agencies to provide coordinated service to the elderly and people with disabilities? These agencies are: Mercer Street Friends, Mobile Meals of Trenton, Catholic Charities, Mt. Carmel Guild, Enable, Mercer ARC, and Jewish Children and Family Services. Chris Edenfield from the Jewish Children and Family Services is the social worker who answers questions and takes referrals for seniors. Her number is 609-987-8100.

Dianna Di Maggio, from Enable, is the social worker who assists people with disabilities, and can be reached at 609-987-5003. This new collaborative is in year two and we have already helped to connect over 128 people who needed help with multiple services.

We are now offering a free series of workshops that are, open to the public, to give more information on what these agencies can do to assist seniors. There is a limited number of seats available, so please be sure to RSVP at 609-393-9922 if you plan to attend one or all of the upcoming workshops. You are welcome to invite a friend to come along. Free materials and refreshments will be provided.

Who is Your "Shining Light"?

We are still looking for nominations for our special fundraising brunch on November 15th at the Trenton Country Club. Evelyn Mason will be our MC for the afternoon, bringing her fabulous wit and energy. Our Community Shining Light is Eileen Doremus, Mercer County Office on Aging Director and former Program Coordinator of the Alzheimer's Association. Our Clergy Shining Light is the Rev. Darrell Armstrong of Shiloh Baptist Church in Trenton. We are still accepting nominations for both care receivers and volunteer Shining Lights. If you have some to nominate, please call us or send your nominations to ICT Board, 229 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence, NJ 08648.

We are looking forward to celebrating the wonderful people who make ICT special.

All nominations are due by July 31, 2009.

Please send in your nominations TODAY!

SAVE THE DATE(S)



Our very own Rev. Deanna Womack and her husband Mike will be returning from their mission in Lebanon for a brief respite. They are expecting their first child. Please save the date: June 23rd for a pot luck reception and learn all about their missionary work.

Noon – 1pm • West Trenton Presbyterian Church

RSVP to Beverly at 609-393-9922 by June 19th.

Tell her your pot luck dish and the number of people who will be attending.

Project Connect Educational Series

SERIES II: MOBILE MEALS OF EWING AND TRENTON AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Learn about: Meals-on-Wheels and nutrition services for the elderly; Signs of emotional stress and a place for help



6:00pm-8:00pm
Mercer County Public Library
2751 Brunswick Pike
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648



12:00pm-2:00pm
Mercer County Public Library
2751 Brunswick Pike
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

SERIES III: INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS AND ARC MERCER

Learn about: The volunteer role in providing support for the elderly and disabled;
Ways of meeting transportation needs



6:00pm-8:00pm
Mercer County Public Library
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12:00pm-2:00pm
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Project Connect is a collaboration made possible through funding from the United Way of Greater Mercer County.



Volunteer Recognition Dinner Celebration



Pictured are the wonderful committee members who planned the 15th Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. (L/R) Mary Ann Isaac, Executive Director, Sondra Obstein, Marge Bernhard, Dianne Bilello and Helen Holmes.

15th Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner was celebrated on Tuesday, April 28th at Villa Victoria in West Trenton. Thank you to our supporters for our Volunteer Dinner Celebration!

Thank you to all our supporters for helping to make this event so successful!

SUPPORTERS: Bristol-Myers Squibb, Central New Jersey Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Church of Divine Mercy, Church of St. Gregory the Great, Congregation Brothers of Israel, County of Mercer – Office on Aging, Jim Dieterle and Maura Ryan, Divine Mercy Parish, Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Frank, Har Sinai Temple, Janssen Pharmaceutical, Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Mercer County, Mary and Irwin Kirsch, Mercer County Board of Freeholders, Mobile Meals of Trenton/Ewing, Joseph Moreau, Jr., Andrew and Joan O'Rahilly, RAK Bookkeeping and Accounting Services, Robert Wood Johnson Health Center, Roma Bank, Shiloh



(L/R) ICT Board Members Cheryl Woodall, Jack Parra, John Zimmerman, MaryAnn Isaac, Helen Holmes, Carmen Alicia, Patricia O'Neil, The Very Rev. Renee Rory John



(L/R) Volunteers from St. Gregory the Great Church – Liz Liu, Andrea Pfeifer, Gaeta Iseicz, Henry Iseicz, Sue O'Reilly, Pat Seladi, Kathy Head, Gina Hopkins, Debbie Ostroy

Baptist Church, St. Mary's Church, Bordentown, Stark & Stark, Tessara's Restaurant, Trinity Cathedral, Ujima Christian Church, Union Baptist Church, Ernestine Urken, West Trenton Presbyterian Church, Winowicz Funeral Home, Mary Jane Zimmer, Gina Hopkins

From the Caregivers Mailbag

Dear Interfaith Caregivers Trenton, Mary Ann and Jane,

Thank you for the services your organization and ministry provide. I especially want to say how pleased I am with your referral of your volunteer Judy Bednar in providing assistance and transportation for grocery shopping and errands. I feel we are a good match in personalities. We have shared our favorite hymns. Express thanks for being able to see and enjoy God's beautiful creations as we're riding along. It's interesting when she provides history of the various neighborhoods. I find Judy to be agreeable, reliable and very accommodating. If I have an appointment on our day, she will make herself available another day. And God has blessed her

with the gift of patience. All of this has made a couple of hours very pleasant, instead of just a chore.

I'm sorry I read your bulletin too late to nominate Judy Bednar as a "Shining Light", but I must say how grateful I am for her help, her spiritual personality and your ministry. May God continue to bless your organization.

Most sincerely,
Josephine White

Response from Interfaith Caregivers Trenton:

Dear Josephine,

We are accepting your nomination of Judy B for a Shining Light volunteer. Thanks so much for your kind letter.



Great Idea For Father's Day To Light Up His Life!

It all started a couple of years ago, when I bought my husband, John, the perfect Father's Day gift! He had the habit of bringing a glass of water to bed, which would sometimes topple over in the middle of the night! That trick would wake up both of us! Then I saw an ad about a "nite coaster" which not only served as a coaster for drinks, but also would light up with a sensor light when reaching for it. No more muttering or crashing in the middle of the night! John loved his gift so much, he ordered one for me. Not only does it help me locate my glass in the dark, but it also lights up the area round my bedside, so I can see where I am stepping if I get out of bed.

Since we love this product and know how helpful it has been to us personally, I thought it would make a great fundraiser for Interfaith Caregivers. After all, the girl scouts have their cookies, maybe we could have our nite coasters!

It you think this is a great idea and would like to help us out by selling some to friends and relatives, or if you would just like to purchase one for yourself, please see the ad below for more details, and not only do yourself a favor, but do a good deed for ICT to help ensure ongoing services for the elderly in our community. We are MOST grateful for your support.

2009 Interfaith Caregivers

Light-up Father's Day Campaign

Motion-Activated Light nite coaster turns on with a wave of your hand to help you easily locate bedside items at night.

A useful, pleasing gift you will enjoy nightly, or share it with Dad on June 21, 2009.

To receive more information, call, or mail-in this advertisement with your name, address, **phone number and email**, along with \$24.95 (plus \$3.00 for shipping) **to:** Interfaith Caregivers Trenton

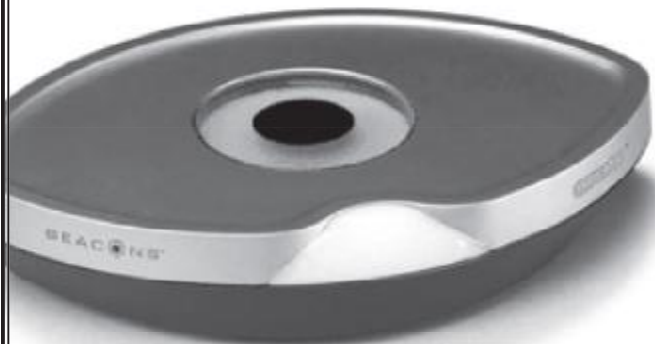
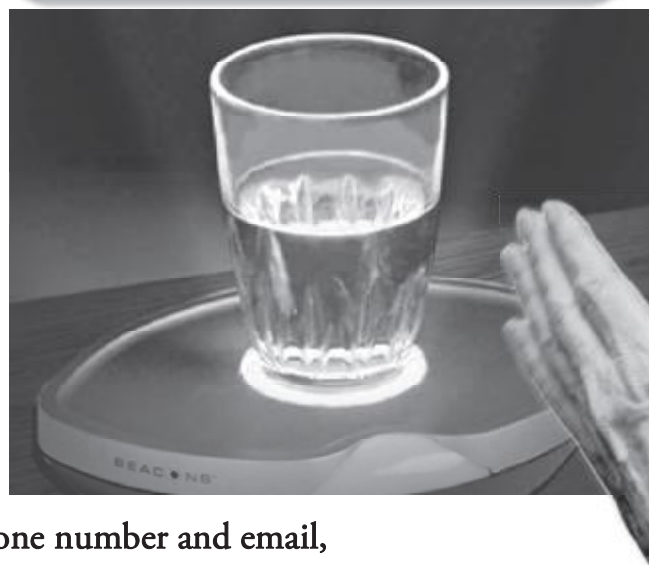
229 Lawrenceville Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

- I will pick up at ICT
- Please ship to me, I have added \$3.00 to my check to include shipping

Please make check payable to Beacons, LLC and forward your payment and contact information to: Beacons, LLC PO Box 3943, Chesterfield, MO, 63006

or Click on: www.nitecoaster.com/ICT (for credit cards) or Call Beverly at 609-393-9922

Motion-activated nite coaster



ICT Trenton Light-up Father's Day Campaign: Call or order today!



Matching Gifts

Did you know that your individual gift to ICT may be matched and possibly double your donation?

Many companies set aside philanthropic dollars and allocate those funds through matching gift programs. These programs allow employees, and sometimes retirees and directors, of the company to make a contribution to an institution which is then matched by a corporate gift. Matching levels vary from one company

to another, but regardless of the match percentage, these gifts can represent a significant source of funds to sustain our caregiver programs.

Although procedures for matching gift programs vary, matching gift forms may usually be obtained through the employer's Human Resource Office. The rest is handled by Interfaith Caregivers and the employers Human Resource Department.

The following companies offer Matching Gift funds:

Abbot Laboratories
Aetna Foundation
Altria Group, Inc.
AMBAC Financial Group
Amerada Hess Corporation
American Express
American Standard
Anheuser-Busch Foundation
Avaya
Aventis
AXA Financial Foundation (Equitable)
Bank of America
Barclays
BEA Systems
Becton Dickinson & Co
Bemis Company
BOC Gases
Bristol-Meyers Squibb
Carnegie Corporation NY
The Children's Place
Chubb Corporation
Cingular
CIT Group
Citigroup Foundation
CNA
Colgate Palmolive Co.
Computer Associates
Congoleum Corporation
Conoco Philips
Deutsche Bank
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
Duracell
Engelhard

Fidelity Investments
Financial Security Assurance (FSA)
Freddie Mac Foundation
Gannett Foundation
General Re
Glaxo Smith Kline
Goldman, Sachs & Co.
Hoffman-LaRoche
Home Depot, USA
Honeywell/Allied Signal
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John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
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Minerals Technologies, Inc.
Mutual of America
National Starch & Chemical
NECA
New York Life Ins. Co.

NYSE (New York Stock Exchange)
Novartis US Foundation
Pepsico (Frito Lay)
Pfizer
Phillips Electronics
Pitney Bowes
PNC Bank
Prudential Foundations
PSE&G
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Rockefeller Financial Services, Inc.
Sankyo Pharma
Schering-Plough Corp.
Shell Oil Foundation
Sony Corporation of America
Spear, Leeds & Kellogg
Sprint Foundation
St. Paul Companies, Inc. Foundation
Sundance Home Care
Sun Microsystems
Thomson Financial
Tiffany & Co.
Tyco
Tycom
UBS
Unilever
UPS Foundation
US Bankcorp Foundation
Verizon
Wachovia
Wyeth

Thank You for multiplying your gift!

Mission Statement:

Interfaith Caregivers, an Interfaith Coalition, is dedicated to promoting the independence and dignity of homebound elderly and people with disabilities by matching them with caring volunteers who assist with the tasks of everyday life.



From the Executive Director

Dear friends of ICT,

On April 28th, Interfaith Caregivers Trenton/Faith in Action, celebrated 15 years of service to homebound seniors and people with disabilities in the Mercer County area. Volunteers from 25 member churches and congregations came together for the evening to share food and fellowship. Students from Villa Victoria Academy served the guests and provided live music and entertainment. It was an evening of special remembrance as Lisa Carmalt, Founder



Mary Ann Isaac
Executive Director

and past Executive Director, joined us to share her thoughts about how she and a group of congregations from the Trenton Ecumenical Area Ministry saw a need and worked together to address it. West Trenton Presbyterian Church was the first to offer a room to set up an office, and other churches/congregations invited Lisa to their services to recruit volunteers. Trainings were developed, materials bought, office equipment donated while over coffee and donuts, plans became realities. One by one, more churches and congregations joined the coalition. As volunteers were matched to seniors living in their own neighborhoods, they not only helped with shopping, friendly visiting, and other services, but also found joy in forming new friendships.

Everyone involved in this ministry has a story to share. I had the privilege of visiting an incredible woman who had Lou Gerig's disease. All she wanted was someone to read the Bible to her. When I visited her at home, I realized that she and her husband could use additional help. They were unaware that they could get hospice assistance. As a result, hospice came and provided a special bed and wheelchair, a nurse, therapist and social worker. They gave needed respite and provided support for her husband. They no longer felt frustrated and alone. It was such a gift to me personally to have met this loving couple and to be able to assist them in a time of need.

As both the director and a fellow volunteer, I would like to personally acknowledge the over 275 volunteers of Interfaith Caregivers Trenton who day in and day out give unselfishly of their time to serve homebound elderly and people with disabilities in

our community. Truly, they are Shining Lights who bring tangible help and provide hope to seniors who could use some "friendly neighbor" assistance. I would also like to invite others who have a heart for the elderly to consider giving an hour or two once a week in service to the elderly. There are many wonderful seniors in our community who appreciate the assistance of an occasional trip to the store or a friendly visit. We may not be able to solve the trillion dollar deficit, but we can brighten the day of one person through an act of kindness given freely.

Blessings and peace,

Mary Ann

Thoughts About Planned Giving

Since becoming Executive Director of ICT in 2006, I have learned much more about the world of philanthropy and the nuts and bolts involved in keeping a "community benefit organization" (also known as non-profit) running smoothly. It caused me to look more closely at my own family's giving habits—both as volunteers and donors. I thought more about the charities we chose to support and why. I thought about local versus national groups and the impact our donation would make. We made a list of our top charities and the amount of money we would give annually. We also reviewed our will to include bequests and are currently talking to a financial advisor for best donation options.

Interfaith Caregivers has been on our list for many years. We have increased our donations as we have come to value more each year the incredible volunteers and the people they serve. We see ICT as an extended family—an interfaith family, surrounding the elderly with a caring safety net, making them feel a little less alone in a world that can become increasingly difficult because of health or monetary loss.

It is a privilege to serve as director and I am most grateful to the Board and staff who tirelessly work each day to ensure that each elderly person who asks for help will be assisted with compassion and caring. Won't you please join me in planning for the future sustainability of ICT? You may contact Board member Rosemary Durkin, Trusts and Estates Department, Stark and Stark 609-895-7314 if you have questions on how you, too, can leave a legacy.

Interfaith Caregivers Trenton
Faith in Action, Inc.
229 Lawrenceville Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
www.ICTrenton.org

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 Celebrating **15** years
of service to seniors!

CAREGIVERS News

Interfaith Caregivers Trenton, Inc./ Faith in Action, Inc.

"Neighbors Helping Neighbors Remain Independent"

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**FAITH
IN ACTION**