

Happy Holidays

*"We are like a snowflake
all different in our own
beautiful way."*

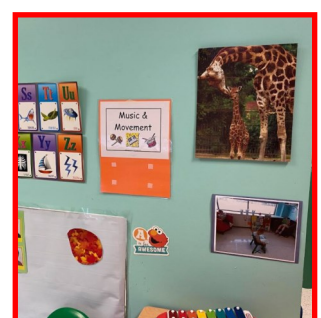
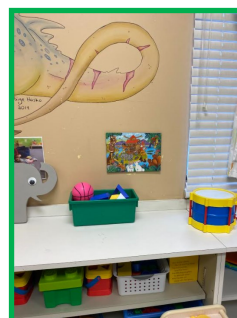
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Barbara's Gift

A **huge** thank you to Barbara for creating and then presenting three beautiful puzzles to the children at The Jerry Davis Center! The children enjoyed looking at and talking about the pictures on the completed puzzles and now must decide where in each of their rooms they will have these puzzles hung as an ongoing treat from Barbara. There certainly was magic in the air today as three magical elves joined in the presentation! Barbara's elf Buddy spoke directly to the children reminding them to be as good as possible every day (but not just around the holidays!) Jingle and Jangle the elves *really* needed to take a lesson from the children as the children were sitting up much better than they were! Oh those elves This connection will continue as the children will now choose a puzzle from their collection for Barbara to put together and send to them so stay tuned for more fun!



Art with Tonya

The art group enjoyed a relaxing afternoon collaborating with other artists and guided by instructor Tonya. Everyone worked on the creation of a beautiful flower filled field. All participants diligently created his/her own works and revealed the result of their process at the end so that all could enjoy. Thank you Tonya, for always taking us on a mindful journeys into art!

The BUZZ

141 S. Main Street
Manville NJ 08835

www.thearcofsomerset.org

Publisher & Editor

Cliff Leon
Karen Kowalski

Contributing Writers

Karen Kowalski
Mary Scibelli
Jason Scheib
Chris Corvino
Lauren Fray

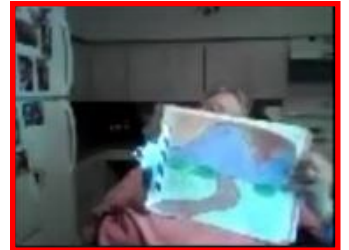
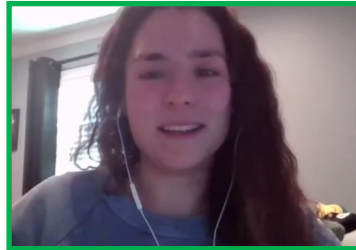
Photographers

Cliff Leon
Karen Kowalski

Looking for a fun
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Be a guest contributor for
The BUZZ

Please contact:
Karen Kowalski

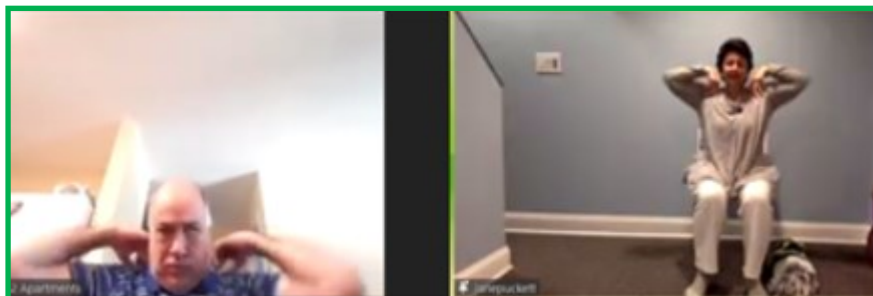


Damandeep's art work



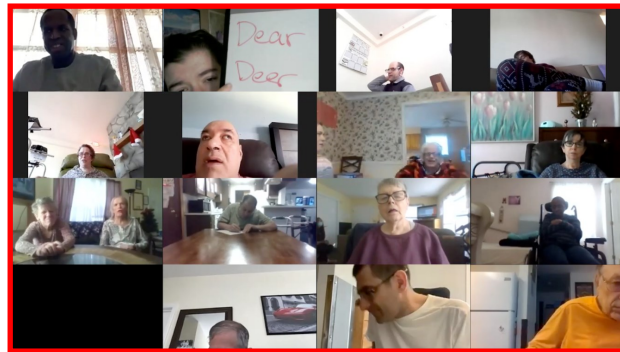
The Royal School of Yoga

Jane began today's class by leading the setting of intentions. We learned that sometimes, it may take weeks to master a single intention. One of the group members shared that she is still working on keeping her stress and temper down from last week. We focused on our breath to support increased mindfulness and being right in the "here and now." Each yoga pose and posture helped to release tension, pain, and strain. The group repeated the mantra, "I am peaceful; I am calm." Jane also led the class in imagery of a warm sunrise that brings soothing, comforting, warming, and healing feelings. The group closed with the chant, "peace, peace, peace." The group left feeling ready to take on the rest of the week!

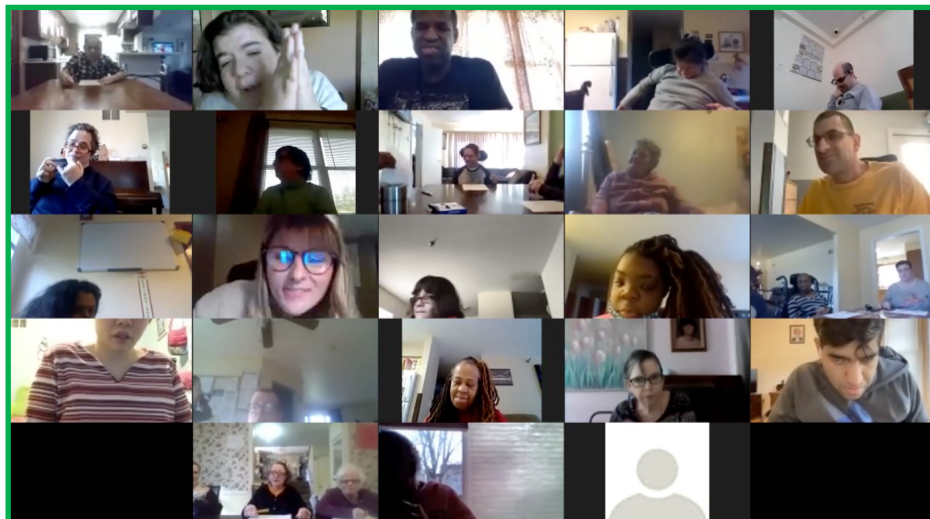


This Week in Literacy

During one of our literacy classes this week, we talked about words that sound the same, but have different meanings. When the group was asked to name "something a dog wags," Shawn said tail. When the group was asked for "another word for story," Mary said tale. The group was also asked to name "a group of cows" and Diana helped everyone out by saying the word "herd." This sounds like something you listened to yesterday, "heard." After he heard some of the examples, Stephen said that he thought of some words on his own. He spelled out two different ways to spell deer and dear. When the group was asked for different meanings, Mary said d-e-a-r is the word that is used in a letter. It is always fun to play with words!



Mary's Bingo Group



Virtual Programming

The Arc of Somerset County is thrilled to be able to offer a wide array of virtual programming for individuals within residences *and* for those whom are served through our day habilitation programs. All individuals are welcome to attend any and all groups in order to catch up with friends and participate in fun and interactive activities. Please refer to this month's virtual calendar and feel free to contact Director of Adult Services, Karen Z. Kowalski, with any questions at: karenk@thearcofsomerset.org

- **Bingo:** Enjoy time with friends while playing “Bingo” with Mary Scibelli in this very popular group! Any new individuals interested in joining this group, please contact Karen Kowalski to coordinate so that you can receive bingo cards
- **“Art with Alec & Tonya”:** Join fellow artists as they learn about different types of pencil and paper drawings. Make sure to have paper, pencils and either colored pencils, crayons or markers
- **“Royal School of Yoga”:** Enjoy a relaxing start to the week with Jane and friends with yoga. Yoga poses can be done seated or in standing based upon ability level.
- **Literacy classes:** Join Mary Scibelli with her very engaging classes wherein literacy concepts are taught. Would be helpful for participants to have pencil and paper or someone to assist with this.
- **“Morning Exercise with Friends”:** Start the morning right with gentle stretching and exercise with friends. Exercise can be done in seated or standing position.
- **“Music for Hope and Inspiration”:** Join musicians and those whom just enjoy music for this varied music programs featuring guest musicians on a variety of instruments such as guitar, piano, voice, harmonica, accordion. Participants are encouraged to sing, clap, dance to the music or just smile, make comments and enjoy a good musical time with friends!
- **“Self-Advocacy Group”:** Join Suman and the Self-Advocacy Group to learn about current issues and events surrounding self-advocacy. Please contact Karen Kowalski for more information if interested.
- **“Hot TopiX”:** Join friends as they participate in a variety show program that features topics, people within the community and generally things of interest that we want and need to know about! Previous topics have included virtual tours, Trigger the Therapy Dog, beekeeping, balloon sculpting, dental care, photography, virtual live tours of flower store and local dog bakery. The sky is the limit with what can and will be learned in this group!
- **“Let’s Talk about Food”:** Join friends as we discuss an activity that will be sure to be interesting food!
- **“Cool Collections”:** Join friends as they learn about each others’ memorabilia! One collection is featured each week to include items such as baseball/basketball cards, magnets, remembering years that people were born, Swarovski crystals.

Virtual Zoom Schedule: December 29-31

Please note: Please join any activity that you are interested in. Every literacy class has been opened up to everyone, not just the home that is listed. Attend as many as you like!

Monday December 28

10:00-10:30: Bingo with Mary

Meeting ID: 701 845 7910
Password: 12345

11:00-11:30: Royal School of Yoga

Meeting ID: 956 878 9920
Password: 566600

2:00-2:30: Art with Alec & Tonya

Meeting ID: 956 878 9920
Password: 566600

Tuesday December 29

10:30-11:00: Literacy class (Griggstown) everyone welcome!

Meeting ID: 701 845 7910
Password :12345

1:00-1:30: Literacy class (RHGH) everyone welcome!

Meeting ID: 701 845 7910
Password :12345

1:00-1:30: "Music for Hope and Inspiration" Guest Musician: Jody and The Great American Song Book

Meeting ID: 481 232 8925
Password: 12345

2:00-2:30: Literacy class (UA2) - everyone welcome!

Meeting ID: 701 845 7910
Password: 12345

3:00-3:30: "Hot Topix" - Let's ring in the New Year!

Meeting ID: 481 232 8925
Password: 12345

Wednesday December 30

10:15-10:45: Morning Exercise with Friends

Meeting ID: 956 878 9920
Password: 566600

11:00-11:30: SGH Literacy Class— all welcome!

Meeting ID: 701 845 7910
Password :12345

1:00-1:30: Let's Talk Food

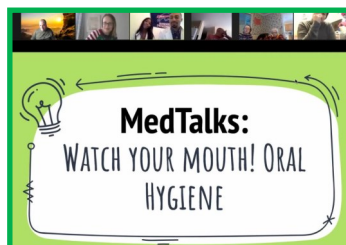
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Thursday December 31

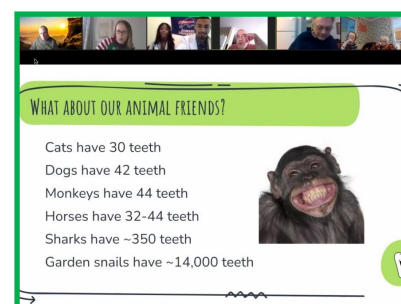
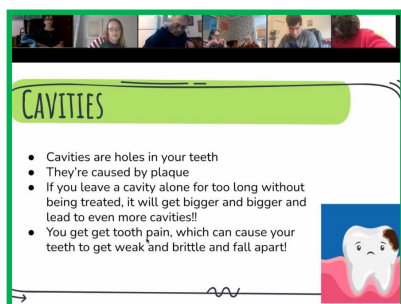
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MedTalk

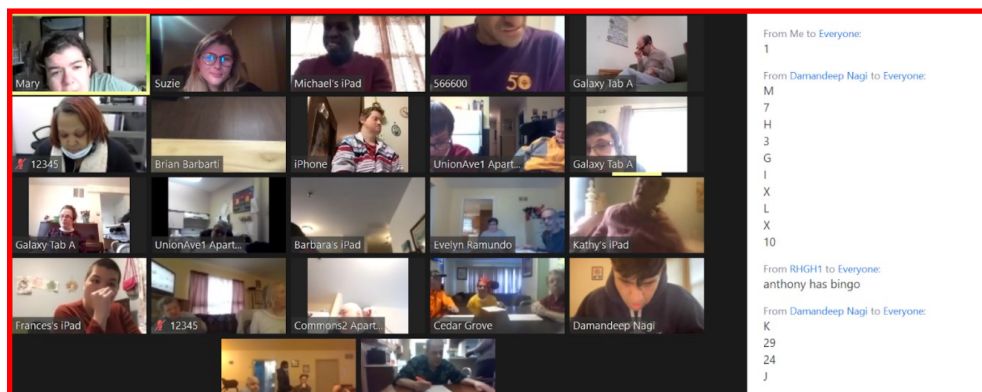


The “MedTalks” group enjoyed a lively discussion regarding oral hygiene with Rutgers Medical Students, Krysten and Joe. We learned or were reminded of many facts about oral hygiene such as a toothbrush needs to be replaced every 3-4 months; we should rinse our mouths after we brush; flossing should be done daily; and that the dentist does more than just check teeth - the dentist also looks for other health related problems such as oral cancer checks. One participant admitted that he is has a “sweet tooth for M&M’s” but then reminded the group that eating too many sweets can lead to cavities. Latricher demonstrated the proper way to brush teeth both up/down and side/side. Frances used an actual piece of dental floss to demonstrate LIVE how to floss teeth! We had a good time with the “Fact or Fiction” section and even learned the fun fact that while human adults have 32 teeth, snails actually have the most of all with 14,000 teeth! Thank you Krysten and Joe - looking forward to January when we discuss mental health and mindfulness with the Rutgers Medical Students!



Damandee's New Role!

Damandee, like many others, is a true lover of bingo. And so, Damandee regularly attends Mary Scibelli's virtual bingo class, occurring twice a week. Mary enthusiastically shouts out the bingo letters and holds up the bingo cards for the group to see on their screens. Oftentimes, life happens and some group members arrive late, or they may miss a letter, requiring Mary to repeat herself and go back to review multiple times. And so - it is helpful for the letters called to be typed out in the Zoom chat for some group members or their staff to reference. Occupational therapy student, Suzie Inglin, encouraged Damandee to take on this new role. This has turned out to be a great responsibility for Damandee, as he continues to exemplify impressive technology skills during this everchanging, technological age. Damandee attentively listens for each letter called, and types it in the chat with lightening speed - all while paying attention to his own bingo board, and making sure not to miss any spaces! Keep up the great work, Damandee! We appreciate all that you do!



Word Search



Merry Christmas

Y	B	S	R	H	K	Q	B	Y	W	O	B	K	C	A	N	D	Y	N	W	M	N	U
Q	P	T	E	V	H	T	R	O	N	V	S	G	N	I	T	E	E	R	G	Q	R	I
L	D	R	I	S	N	O	W	F	L	A	K	E	F	W	G	O	K	Y	J	O	Y	A
F	Z	E	N	R	S	C	F	M	W	O	N	S	T	D	R	P	Y	I	A	D	L	K
R	Z	E	D	R	T	U	S	E	R	R	Z	U	Q	N	H	E	O	S	L	N	H	Q
O	L	Q	E	X	A	S	T	H	G	I	L	C	T	A	O	S	A	L	W	A	P	J
S	C	G	E	Q	R	L	C	E	K	A	C	J	H	C	V	R	L	T	E	L	L	A
T	A	N	R	S	R	T	K	H	K	L	W	O	O	I	R	Y	N	E	H	R	O	P
Y	R	I	E	L	G	N	I	J	R	P	M	L	Y	L	M	A	W	A	D	A	D	F
N	O	K	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	I	O	N	S	E	L	N	C	L	M	G	U	A
I	L	C	Y	I	T	H	G	I	L	W	S	J	E	G	D	Y	E	K	L	E	R	B
X	L	O	R	G	E	G	O	N	G	G	E	T	J	N	R	R	D	Y	E	W	N	J
D	I	T	R	H	B	Y	L	L	O	H	T	E	M	A	Z	M	E	B	J	R	B	T
B	N	S	E	K	N	A	T	N	A	S	F	X	H	A	B	E	L	L	S	S	I	C
G	G	T	M	E	O	T	E	L	T	S	I	M	S	Z	S	G	F	R	X	G	W	A
R	D	F	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	K	N	G	D	X	Q	E	N	A	C	Z	B

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘ .

ANGEL
BELLS
BOW
CAKE
CANDY
CANE
CAROLLING
CHIMNEY

CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS
EGGNOG
ELF
FROSTY
GARLAND
GREETINGS
HOLLY

JINGLE
JOLLY
JOY
LIGHT
LIGHTS
MERRY
MISTLETOE
NORTH

NUTCRACKER
ORNAMENT
POLE
PRESENTS
REINDEER
RUDOLPH
SANTA
SLED

SLEIGH
SNOW
SNOWFLAKE
STAR
STOCKING
TOYS
TREE
WREATH

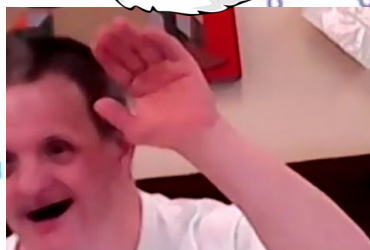




December



BURTON



KEVIN



GERI



SONNY

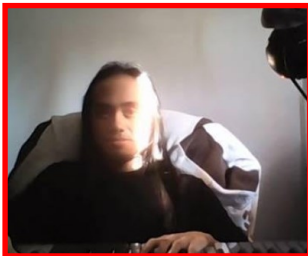


Latricher

Music for Hope & Inspiration Group

Music Jeopardy

The "Music for Hope and Inspiration" group were pleased to welcome back keyboard composer and friend, Louie whom performed two original pieces entitled, "Where Has Christmas Gone" and "Winter". The group also enjoyed working together to complete a "Music Jeopardy" game to include categories such as "Name That Music Symbol", "Famous Musicians", "Finish That Line of Music", and "The Arc of Somerset County Musicians" - everyone did a great job remembering information from past groups during this game. What a fun afternoon surrounded by something we all enjoy...the love of music!

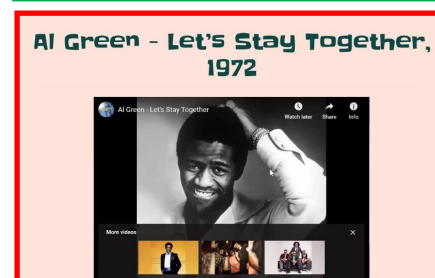
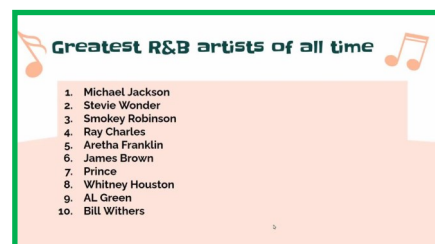


What is that musical symbol?	Famous Musicians	Name that Instrument	Arc of Somerset County Musicians	Fill in the musical blanks
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400



R & B history with Cliff

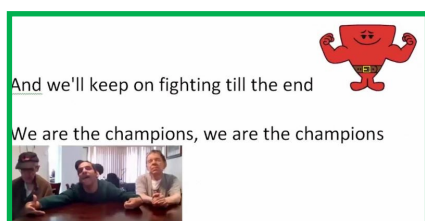
A huge thank you to Cliff for taking us on a journey through the history of R&B music during the "Music for Hope and Inspiration" class today! We actually started the class off with soloists performing a variety of holiday tunes such as "Jingle Bells", "Santa Claus is Coming to Town", "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Silent Night". Cliff then let us know about some of the great R&B musicians to include moving and grooving to their music such as "Everything is Gonna Be Alright" by Bob Marley, "Empire State of Mind" by Jay Z, and Alicia Keys, "This is How We Do It" by Montell Jordan, "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" by The Temptations and a real crowd pleaser of "All Night Long" by Lionel Richie! We have not featured R&B music in this class before so it was really exciting for all of us to listen to this different genre of music and learn through Cliff!



Music for Hope & Inspiration Group

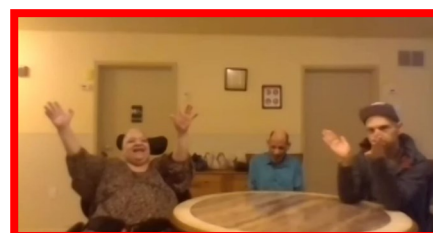
Sing Along with Tommy

It is always a wonderful music class with our friend and musician, Tommy! The "Music for Hope and Inspiration" group continues to demonstrate very good singing and memory ability for songs that have been in our repertoire including "Free Falling", "Sweet Caroline" and "With a Little Help of My Friends". The lyric sheet with funny pictures always gets the group laughing as we sing along! The group started working on "We Are the Champions" by Queen and showed that they already were champions of knowing the words and melody for this song, too! A few musicians are getting so skilled in their ability that they are starting to sing solos! As always, thank you Tommy for being such an outstanding music teacher - the time that we spend together learning and developing our musical ability is such a highlight filled with song and laughter!



Coffeehouse Project

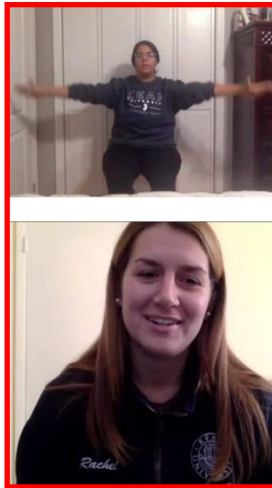
The "Music for Hope and Inspiration" group thoroughly enjoyed a rocking afternoon with our musical friends, The Coffeehouse Project! Song choices provided us with opportunities to dance, clap, sing and reminisce about memories we have with such super song selections such as: "It's My Party", "Respect", "These Boots Were Made for Walking" and some other more relaxing songs including: "Close To You", "Lazy Days", and "Summer Breeze". Steve was able to quickly identify that Glen Campbell wrote and performed "Wichita Lineman" and Mary Lou was getting the crowd dancing with her moves to "YMCA"! Of course we also very much enjoyed the CHP compilation of "Winter Wonderland" - thank you for always putting a smile on our faces and music in our souls!



Hot TopiX

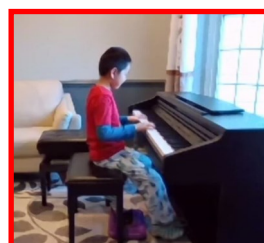
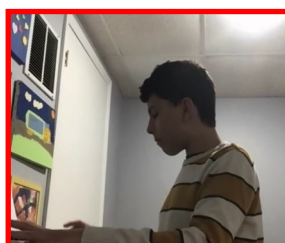
Movers & Shakers

This "Hot TopiX" group had had some very special guests. Occupational Therapy students from Kean University, Stephanie, Monique, and Rachel, joined us to run a group titled, "Movers and Shakers," that encouraged group members to break a sweat via dance and adaptive yoga! Group members followed a choreographed routine to "Livin' On a Payer," freestyled to "Come On Eileen," and rocked out to "Jingle Bell Rock." The group finished off with a yoga cool down to stretch the muscles, encourage blood flow, and enhance mindfulness. One of the group members shared a very impactful statement, "I moved muscles that I haven't moved in a while." And of course, we had a visit from Buddy, the elf! Buddy's adventures over the past week have included sitting on Barbara's stereo and "being lazy on the couch for two nights in a row." Buddy was also busting out some dance moves this afternoon during "Hot TopiX." What a fun time we all had, "Movin'" and "Shakin'!"



Austin, Dylan & Eduardo

The "Hot TopiX" group had another wonderful dose of holiday spirit as our friends Austin, Dylan and Eduardo treated us to a holiday piano concert! The boys have once again been practicing very hard and creating quite a repertoire of music to include: "Grand Central Station", "Teen Titans GO! Theme", "Volga Boatman", "Rise of Skywalker", "Gypsy Dance", "Farewell to Finney" as well as "Seaside Suites" which Dylan composed transition music between each section! The boys also prepared holiday music which Frances, Alex and Steve assisted with singing along to include "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow", "Holly Jolly Christmas", and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". There were a number of surprises during the concert to include sighting of elves, a pizza that magically turned into a Christmas tree and of course a visit by our friend, Swoop from The Eagles!!! Thank you boys for a job very well done - looking forward to another concert for Valentine's Day!



Hot TopiX

Live Virtual Basketball

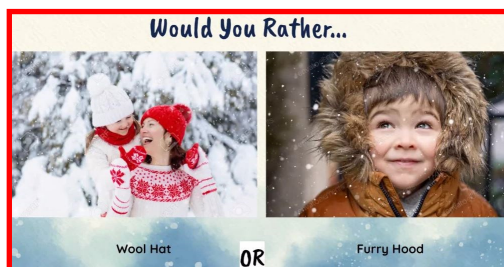
The "Hot TopiX" group continues to enjoy their *LIVE* virtual basketball even as the weather gets chilly outside - such avid fans! The group enjoyed watching and cheering on basketball players, Damandeep, Jenn Faccenda, Tommy Strazza and Trevor. Each player significantly have improved their skills since the last time that we all competed and it showed - with Damandeep taking the MVP with the most points scored. Trevor showed that his dog, Louie was also a funny MVP for catching the toilet paper roll that he threw as an adapted basketball and ran all around their yard with it! Oh Louie - you are so silly. Great job all on our adapted basketball game - we can play even inside with balled up socks and a laundry or garbage can. Keep up your skills until the next month!



Would You Rather?: Winter Edition



The "Hot TopiX" group was very lively today! Everyone had fun participating in a game of "Would You Rather." This game was centered all around our favorite winter things. It was a showdown of Christmas cookies vs. candy canes, mittens vs. gloves, snow angels vs. sledding, snowball fights vs. building a snowman, jelly donuts vs. chocolate gelt, and many more. We also had a visit from Buddy, the elf (thanks to Barbara!). And we got to see pictures of his long lost brothers, Jingle and Jangle. We all know that the holidays are looking a little bit different this year, but there is no doubt that we can still enjoy all the wonderful festivities and traditions of the winter time.



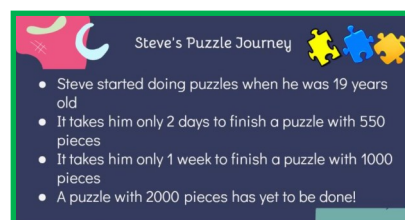
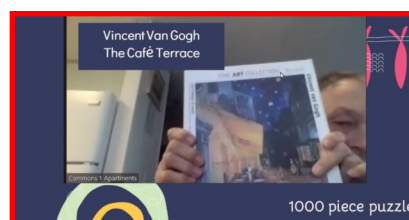
Cool Collections

Steve's Puzzle Collection



During this memorabilia group, Steve displayed his love for puzzles. He explained that his puzzle journey began when he came down with the flu when he was only nineteen years old, and he needed something to do! Ever since then, whenever he completes a puzzle, he will take a picture of the finished product and place it inside his puzzle booklet to be remembered. Steve completes puzzles ranging in difficulty, all the way up to 1000 pieces (which only takes him one week to finish). He is a true puzzle master! Barbara also shared her love for puzzles and the volunteering she has done with the Jerry Davis center, gluing puzzles to be hung there for the children to see.

Karen shared that she is going to purchase a 500 piece puzzle this weekend and complete it over the holidays. She will keep us all posted on her progress!



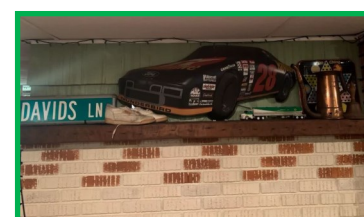
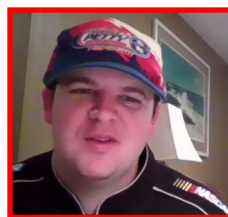
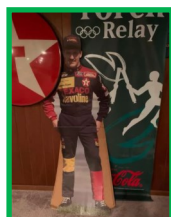
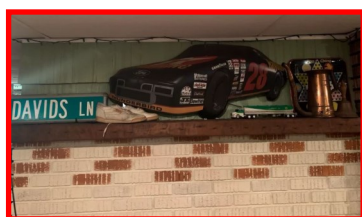
NASCAR

Cool Collections: NASCAR Edition!



The "Cool Collections" group today was quite intrigued by the Inglin family's Nascar collectibles! Trevor and Suzie both dressed appropriately in their 80s vintage racing jackets for the occasion. Trevor enjoyed opening the group with the classic phrase: "Drivers! Start your engines!" Trevor and Suzie's family has been involved in racing for many generations, and their family has a lot of love for the sport. Diana and her family share this passion as well. She grew up watching Nascar, and her favorite driver is Chase Elliott, the 2020 Cup Series Champion. The group enjoyed learning about drivers Chase Elliott, Davey Allison, and a little bit about Dale Earnhardt Sr. Trevor really enjoyed sharing his race car

themed comforter, as well as his steering wheel and gas pedals/brakes for his favorite racing simulation video game. One group member was very thoughtful in sharing that he loved all the pictures of the cars in the presentation. Another group member shared that he loves playing "Grand Theft Auto," another classic racing game. When asked if driving at 200mph is fun or scary, most of the group agreed that this would be very scary in real life! This left us with an appreciation for the sport and how hard the drivers must work to maintain focus at such high speeds. How exciting!



A Holiday Message From Our Friends



Warmest thoughts and best wishes
for a wonderful holiday and a very
happy new year!

From, Cliff & Veronica



Happy holidays to all !!!

From, Sharon



May you days be Merry
and bright!

Love, Alex &
the Cedar Grove gang



Happy Hanukkah

From, Elaine



From my virtual bubble to yours
Happy Holidays to all my friends!!!

XOXO, Karen & Frankie



Happy holidays, from our family to
yours! Wishing happiness and
health to all!

With love, The Inglin's



Happy Holidays from Lisa Marie &
Cameron at The Arc Foundation of
Somerset County. Stay Healthy and
safe in 2021



Merry Christmas!!!

Love, Cindy



Best wishes for a healthy, happy
holiday season and a new year

From, Mary

A Holiday Message From Our Friends



Happy holidays !!!

Love, Cookie



Merry Christmas to everyone at The Arc of Somerset County. I hope everyone has a happy and healthy holiday.

Love, Jenn, AJ & Addie



A very healthy holiday season to all.

*From, Baxter & Roy
your Vehicle Fleet Team*



I hope all of you have a jolly holiday season this year! Cheers to many more great memories together.

From, Michelle



Craftsman Corner



Remember to remove all ice and snow from your vehicle before driving, especially from the hood, windows and roof. It's the law in New Jersey! Motorists who fail to do so face fines of \$25 to \$75 for each offense, regardless of whether the ice and snow is dislodged from the vehicle. If flying ice or snow causes property damage or injury to others, motorists face fines of \$200 to \$1,000 for each offense. There are approximately 500 fatalities in the United States per year due to icy road conditions.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

1. Drive slow (at or below the posted speed limit) and adjust your speed for the changing road conditions.
2. Turn on your headlights, using low beams when traveling in snow.
3. Increase your following distance. In winter weather, travel at least eight to 10 seconds behind the car in front of you.
4. Give snowplows plenty of room to work. Don't tailgate and try not to pass. If you must pass, take extreme caution in doing so. Remember, a snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see him, but they don't always see you.
5. If you skid, don't brake or accelerate. Remove your foot from the gas, and gently steer your car in the direction of the skid (the direction the rear of your vehicle is sliding.)
6. When your car starts heading in the desired direction, carefully straighten the wheel. Slow down before exiting the highway. Exit ramps often have icy patches, sharp curves and stalled or stopped vehicles.
7. Have a personal safety kit easily accessible in your vehicle that includes: an ice scraper/brush; shovel; jumper cables or battery starter; blanket; sand, salt or kitty litter for traction; lock de-icer; flashlight and new batteries; extra windshield wiper fluid; safety flares/warning device; cell phone with spare battery; water and non-perishable food (i.e., granola or protein bars); and paper towels or a cloth.
8. If your vehicle does become disabled, pull off the road as far as possible and turn on your emergency flashers. Remain with your vehicle until help arrives. If you can't get your vehicle off the road and are uncertain about your safety, do not stay in your vehicle or stand behind it. Proceed carefully to a safe location away from traffic.



Thank You Evelyn

The agency is very proud of the outstanding advocacy work that Evelyn continues to do within the state. Recently, she provided a testimony to the Assembly of the State regarding the Billy Cray's Law which pertains to the use of electronic devices within group homes. Evelyn has been providing state advocacy for the past 12 years - thank you Evelyn!

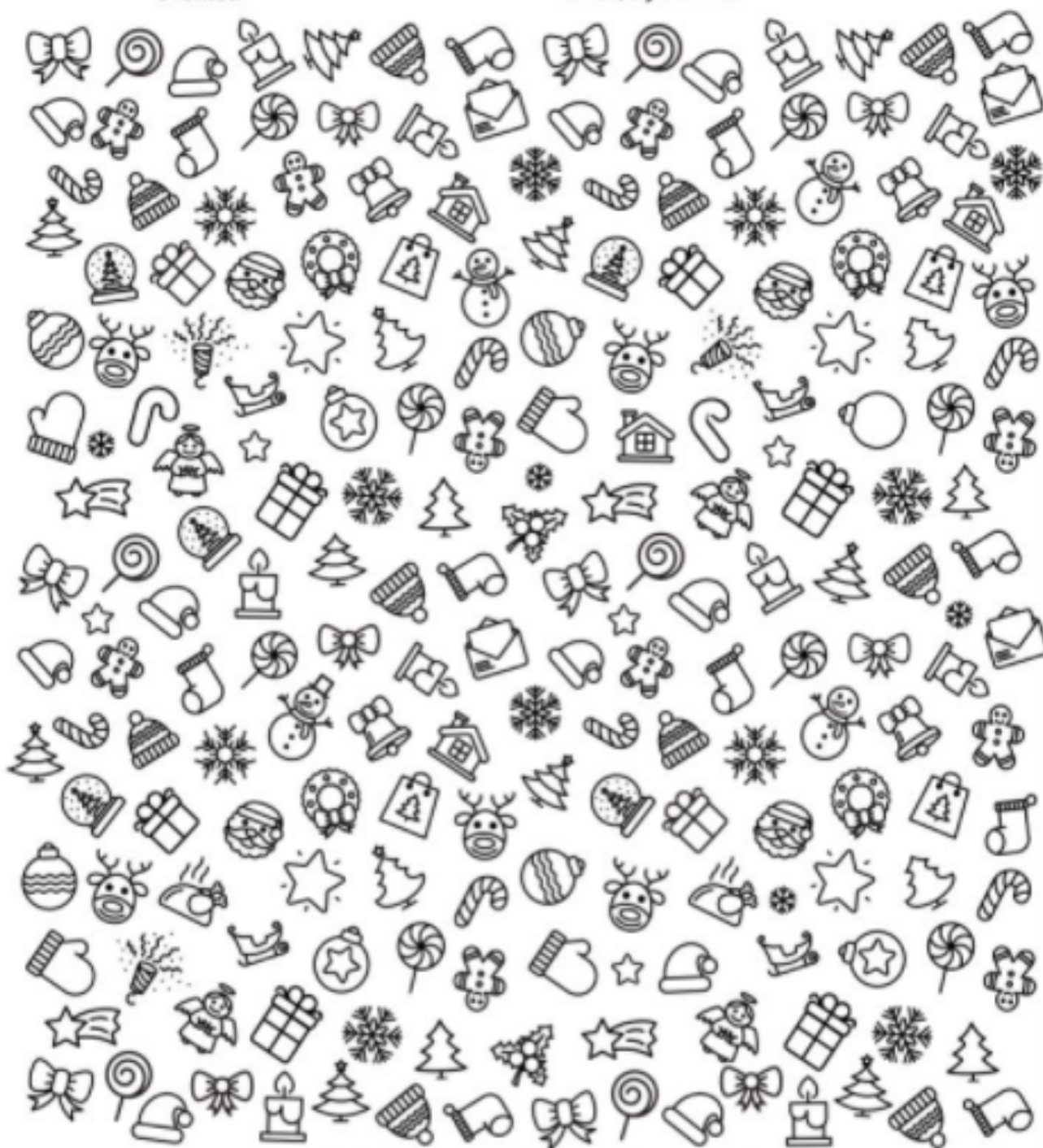


Damandeep's Fine Art



Find the following items and colour them in!

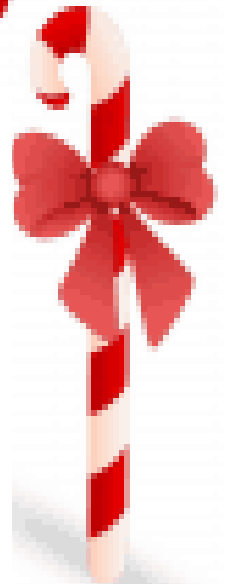
- 12 Stars, big and small.





when
you
CHOOSE
joy

You feel good
& when you feel
good, YOU do good
& when YOU do good
it Reminds others
of what joy feels like
& it just♥
might inspire
them to do
the same.



Buzzwords

The Arc of Somerset County

Holiday Visitation Plan for Licensed Community Residential Programs

Introduction:

The 2020 holiday season is upon us and, unfortunately, New Jersey is experiencing increases in COVID-19 positivity across the State. Many individuals, families and friends are inquiring about visitation for those who reside in licensed community residential settings during this time.

The Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities (Division) supports an individual's right to engage with family and friends in visitation outside of the licensed community residential setting they call home, but is asking everyone to work together to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is easily transmitted, especially in group settings. Many residents of licensed community residential settings have underlying health conditions that make them particularly vulnerable to suffering the most serious complications of COVID-19 infection, including death. Additionally, those individuals who do not have underlying health conditions often reside with housemates or work with staff who do and who may un-intentionally expose them to the virus.

Therefore, the Division strongly recommends against individuals and the staff that support them from engaging in in-person holiday celebrations and gatherings with those they do not live with. As a provider of Residential Services under the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, The Arc of Somerset County will comply with and support The NJ DDD's guidance.

PLAN:

Families and friends who elect to take an individual off-site of a licensed community residential setting must contact and make arrangements with The Arc of Somerset County's Director of Residential Services (K. Kowalski). Any individual who attends an off-site celebration or gathering must be quarantined upon their return in accordance with CDC guidance as follows:

- a. The individual must be quarantined for 14 days upon return to the licensed community residential setting;
- b. If the individual resides in their own private residence not shared by another individual or lives in a residence with others but does not share a bedroom, they may be quarantined there. However, they should still be separated from other residents and not interact with them for 14 days. The capacity of an individual to comply with this must be considered;

c. If the individual has a bedroom shared with one or more individuals, they should be quarantined in an alternate location away from others for 14 days upon their return. Please note that this may not be possible in all instances;

d. If another location is not available, the licensed community residential provider shall notify the family that the individual will not be able to return to the program until an alternate location to quarantine for 14 days becomes available. All efforts shall be made to provide a timeframe in which another quarantine location may be available. In some cases, the residential agency may not be able to provide a realistic alternate location

Alternate Sites for Quarantine:

Alternate available space for Quarantine from approximately November 25, 2020 through January 15, 2021.

Currently the available space for quarantine includes 7 available spaces:

- 5 bedrooms at RGH
- 1 apartment at Commons II
- 1 bedroom/ bathroom combo at GGH

Reservations to take an individual served home:

Family, Friends or Guardian who wish to pursue and off site visit during the holidays must observe the following:

- Reservations to take a loved one off site will be based on a first come first serve basis
- Reservations will only be available based on the number of quarantine spaces available (7)
- Upon make a reservation the family, friend or guardian must provide the following within 36 hours of the visit:
 - Dates and times of visit
 - Address of visit
 - Names of all other visitors that will be present at any time during the visit
 - Provide a 36 hours' notice of cancellation / change in plans before an individual is taken off site

Certifications:

The Individual, Family, Friend or guardian must sign a certification that outlines:

- Awareness of the possible dangers of exposure to Covid-19 for the individual/ family/ friend and those the individual resides with
- Agreement to follow making, social distancing, hand hygiene and cleaning/ disinfecting of surfaces as per the CDC and NJ DOH guidance during the visit
- Agreement to notify the licensed community residential setting if anyone present at the holiday celebration and/or gathering tests positive for COVID-19 or exhibits symptoms within 14 days of the off-site visit.

Buzzwords

- Understanding that the individual will be quarantined in their bedroom or an alternate location for 14 days upon return on the agreed upon date
- Agreement that if quarantine space is NOT available within the agency at time of the return date – the family, friend or guardian will be required to care for the individual until room is available
- The agency reserves the right to request a negative Covid-19 test prior to an individual returning back to the agency

Further Guidance and/or increases in COVID-19 cases may alter this plan or prompt The Arc of Somerset County to cancel or disallow further visitations.



A message from the Executive Director

As we enter into 2021, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to each and every one of our employees. It is the dedication, commitment and creativity of our workforce and leadership that has allowed The Arc of Somerset County to be so successful in achieving our mission and creating extraordinary opportunities for the children and Adults we serve .

It is certain that 2021 will continue to present us with many challenges, It is also certain that 2021 will bring us many reasons to celebrate.

Whether the agency is in the midst of a challenge or a celebration, I am clear that we will remain a committed and cohesive organization that will do whatever it takes to ensure the lives of those who live with a disability are enhanced by our work.

I look forward to 2021 as a year of opportunity to renew our commitment to our mission and to challenge ourselves to continue the outstanding services we provide. I hope you will continue to be a part of The Arc of Somerset County in 2021 and for years to come.

Best Wishes for a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Lauren Frary

Executive Director of The Arc of Somerset

Color Me

