



# The BRIDGE

east bay community action program

THE BRIDGE to SELF-RELIANCE

Volume 8 • Spring 2007

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## East Bay Community Action Program

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## Enjoy a Cool Night of Jazz, Auction, Dinner at EBCAP's Seaside Gala *By David Howard*

It's a lovely early summer night. You are among friends and business associates at Ocean Cliff in Newport, enjoying East Bay Community Action Program's Seaside Gala, the organization's major fund raising event of the year. You can watch the sun setting over Narragansett Bay and the Pell Bridge lights come on, mirrored by the water, as you are served an appetizing four course meal.



TABLE DECOR: At last year's Seaside Gala at Ocean Cliff in Newport.

This year's Seaside Gala on Thursday, June 7 with A Cool Night of Jazz theme, is EBCAP's fourth annual fundraiser, and features silent and live auctions, music by the Bobby Saraceno Sextet and the exquisite décor, food and service that has made Ocean Cliff special for many years.

Everything is designed so those attending will have a memorable evening with proceeds from the event supporting EBCAP's health and human services, making the Seaside Gala a true win-win event—a great time and a way to help area residents at the same time.

In keeping with this year's jazz theme, noted photographer John Corbett, internationally known for his photographs of jazz musicians and of the Newport Jazz Festival, has donated three of his photographs to be auctioned at the Gala. In addition, one of his photos will also be placed on each table, to be auctioned off among those seated there.

The Bobby Saraceno Band will present a special program of popular jazz music, perfect for listening and dancing.

The 2007 Vision Awards will also be presented at the Gala, honoring Sherrill Estes for her volunteer work with EBCAP's social services program in Tiverton, Donald and Nancy Cloud for their support of Stopover Services and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern New England for their partnership in the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, the Molar Express. (See story on Page 3 in this issue).

The deadline for reservations to the Seaside Gala is May 31. Call at 401-847-7821, ext. 339 to reserve tickets or for more information on the event. To make reservations on-line go to: [www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org) and click on "Event Tickets."

There is a tremendous amount of work that goes into the Seaside Gala. EBCAP Event Coordinator Evelyn Williams said that planning starts almost immediately, with a review of every aspect of the just concluded event. Discussion of a theme, location and date for the next Gala follows. "Then the work begins in earnest," Williams said, "with schedules set for designing the invitations, creating a menu and selecting favors.

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# CEO Corner

by Dennis Roy, Chief Executive Officer

It has been a busy winter and spring for EBCAP with the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, the Molar Express making stops in East Providence, Middletown, Bristol, Warren and Newport. We continue to receive many positive comments about the success of this partnership with Comprehensive Community Action Program and Thundermist Health Center, in providing free dental care for children of low-income families. The need we envisioned for accessible dental care for children has proved accurate, with children in 20 communities throughout the state seen or scheduled to be seen aboard the care mobile.



DENNIS ROY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Local, state and federal officials were on hand for the Grand Re-opening of our Tiverton Center, which features a Head Start classroom and offices for EBCAP departments, including WIC, social services, heating and energy and Stopover Services. The renovations of the building at 1048 Stafford Rd. have been possible in part, by Capital Campaign contributions. The project has provided EBCAP with a permanent location for a Head Start classroom serving Tiverton and Little Compton children. In the past, the organization has leased space in various community buildings. Residents will also be able to visit the building to take advantage of other services and programs offered by the organization.

Speaking of the Capital Campaign, a reception was held in March at Carnegie Abbey in Portsmouth to say thank you to some of the major benefactors of the campaign that, as of this writing, has surpassed the goal \$2.6 million. Tribute was paid to Tom Kelly, President of BankNewport, who served as Chairman of the Capital Campaign and to retiring board member Bill Flynn for his service to EBCAP.

This has been a remarkably successful fund raising effort for our organization, providing us with infrastructure improvement to our facilities in East Providence, Newport and Tiverton, as well as an endowment that will grow in future years to help us better serve our growing list of clients.

We are pleased to welcome Sal Lombardi as EBCAP's new Director of Human Resources. Sal brings a solid background in the field to our organization and has quickly become involved in many projects including benefit reviews, merit increases and our TQM program.

## Celebrate Capital Campaign Success

East Bay Community Action Program held a special celebration at Carnegie Abby in Portsmouth to show its appreciation to many who played a major role in the success of the organization's \$2.6 million Capital Campaign.

EBCAP Chief Executive Officer Dennis Roy announced that the campaign had exceeded its \$2.6 million goal, with contributions still being received. He listed some of the projects made possible by donations, including infrastructure improvements at both 19 Broadway in Newport and 100 Bullocks Point Avenue in East Providence.

Those attending also viewed a short film presentation on the work accomplished through the Campaign.

Thomas W. Kelly, President of BankNewport, was recognized for his leadership as Chairman of the Capital Campaign and presented with a gift basket.

"There were many people who contributed to the success of our Capital Campaign," Roy said at the celebration, "helping us meet the continuing challenge of providing quality health and human service programs to our friends and neighbors in the east bay."

## Senior Management Team



SUSAN SCHENCK  
CHIEF OPERATING  
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FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



BARBARA SCHERMACK  
DIRECTOR OF  
HEAD START



STEPHANIE MCCAFFREY  
HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATOR

## Gospel Music Concert to Benefit Health Services

East Bay Community Action Program's health services will benefit from the annual Gospel Music Concert featuring the Delco Mass Choice of Delaware County, Pennsylvania on June 16 at 7pm at Community Baptist Church, located on Dr. Marcus Wheatland Boulevard in Newport.

The choir is one of the best in the country and its concerts are special music experiences. A free will offering will be taken at the concert to benefit EBCAP's health services.

## Enjoy a Cool Night of Jazz, Auction, Dinner at EBCAP's Seaside Gala *(Continued from page 1)*

A promotions committee is formed to help in the sale of Gala tickets. At the same time, the event coordinator is busy putting together the silent and live auctions that are a major part of each Gala.

"We send out lots of letters and make many calls," Williams explained, "but it's the follow-up work that usually pays off, a personal call or in some cases, visit, to tell about EBCAP and how an auction donation will benefit residents of the area." In addition to John Corbett's photos, another auction highlight will be a seven-day cruise on Holland America Lines, with a choice of destinations to Alaska, the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada/New England.

Williams will often create "auction packages" to provide special incentives for bidders. "We will place activity items, restaurant certificates and sometimes even lodging from the same area together to

create a special day trip or longer for a family," she said. "There are packages for children, golfers, skiers, tennis watchers, jazz lovers, theatre goers, diners, coffee fanatics and those who like to relax at a spa, head to Boston for dinner or just stay home with some of Rhode Island's favorite foods." The auction items for the upcoming Gala are still being received, with the latest listing found by clicking on the organization's web site [www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org).

For the second year in a row, a ticket promotions committee for the Gala has been formed. This select group meets at a luncheon to receive Gala tickets to sell to friends and associates, along with a preview of the event itself and the auction items that will be available. A second meeting is held so promotion committee members can turn in the reservations and gain an update on the event and ticket sale progress. The

promotions committee was an important part of the success of last year's Seaside Gala and is playing a major part in the upcoming event. Two weeks before the Gala, members of the staff steering committee take part in a mini-phone-a-thon, calling past Gala attendees and friends to remind them of the coming deadline for reservations.

Williams meets with the staff at Ocean Cliff to coordinate the event's décor and finalize the set-up schedule. Public relations/development staff members Maggie Laurianno and David Howard prepare press releases on the event and the Vision Award recipients coordinate volunteers and set up the process for welcoming everyone to the Gala and giving them their table location.

The Seaside Gala is a wonderful way to begin the summer season and to benefit EBCAP and its many helping programs at the same time.

## Noted Photographer John Corbett Donates Jazz Legends Photo to Gala

Guests at the Seaside Gala on Thursday, June 7 will see first hand some of photographer John Corbett's work captured at previous Newport Jazz Festivals. Corbett is donating three of his favorite photographs of jazz luminaries, framed, to be auctioned off. In addition, each table at the Gala will have one of Corbett's photos from the Festival displayed as part of the centerpiece. Those seated at the table can bid to take the centerpiece home.

Corbett enjoys his work as a photographer in the City by the Sea. His work includes wedding photography at many famous local sites, including Rosecliff Mansion. He is also in demand as an entertainment

photographer, recently photographing a concert by the popular artist Ludacris at Roger Williams University. His assignments are as diverse as the Tall Ships Festival to a series of tiny electronic conductors for a local electronics manufacturer.

But it has been a life-long love of music, especially jazz, that brought the world-famous Newport Jazz Festival and John Corbett together. His portfolio includes many scenes of the early years of the festival, with candid photos of Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, Maynard Ferguson and many others.

When he goes on vacation to the coast of Maine, one of his favorite spots, Corbett often returns to his photographic roots and

uses mostly black and white film in a camera much like the Speed Graphics used in the 1940's and 50's.

He has kept pace with the recent technological advances in photography and uses mostly digital cameras for his commercial work. "The processing time is so much faster for digital," he notes. Corbett works with Crane Paper Company in testing and using the latest in photographic papers.

Corbett enjoys talking about jazz and the legends he photographed when they played at past Newport Jazz Festivals. Those attending the Seaside Gala will be able to view and bid on three of those photos.

## Announce Vision Award Recipients

The presentation of the East Bay Community Action Program Vision Awards, taking place at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Seaside Gala on June 7 in Newport, represents a special time for the organization—a time to pay tribute to special individuals whose efforts have benefited EBCAP's mission of providing high quality, comprehensive and accessible health and human services to assist people to achieve their fullest potential. This year's recipients are:

### **Sherrill Estes**

Winston Churchill once said "We make a living by what we do, but we make a life

by what we give." Sherrill Estes of Tiverton, 2007 Vision Award Recipient, has made a wonderful life by giving of herself as a volunteer with EBCAP's Social Services Department in Tiverton for the past 6 years. Luana Cherenzia of EBCAP's Social Services Department said "Sherrill is always happy, kind, and willing to help. I depend on her so much, as do many of our clients."

That kindness and willingness to help is what has driven Sherrill to fill in when there have been staffing changes over the

years or when the staff has had to be away from the office for meetings. In those situations she would ensure the continuation of services by consulting with staff at the Newport headquarters, making appropriate referrals, and putting in many hours at the food pantry.

Sherrill understands the important work being done in her home community and she is committed to doing her part. Her kindness and gentle disposition make her a favorite with our clients and many ask for her specifically.

*(Continued on page 4)*



*The Bridge is published quarterly for friends of East Bay Community Action Program by the Development & Public Relations Department, Susan Schenck, Chief Operating Officer. Editorial: David Howard, Maggie Laurianno; photography, Evelyn Williams, Terry Scuncio.*

*For further information, please call 401-847-7821, ext. 214.*

[www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org)

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## Announce Vision Award Recipients *(Continued from page 3)*

### Donald and Nancy Cloud

When Newport County youth and families are in crisis they can turn to Stopover Services (SOS), an organization that began in 1981 and merged with East Bay Community Action Program in 2006; and when SOS faced a financial crisis in 1998 Donald and Nancy Cloud were there to help. Mr. and Mrs. Cloud, believing strongly in the mission of SOS, generously provided the financial support that enabled SOS to regain its footing and continue to grow and strengthen its services.

Donald Cloud began his association with SOS by joining the Board of Directors in 1993. He served as Board President in 1994 and 1995, and continued serving on the Board for another two years.

Every year since their contribution in 1998, Mr. and Mrs. Cloud have continued to make generous donations that are both unsolicited and hold no stipulations or requirements. With their continued support, SOS has been able to go on growing and improving.

When the merger of Stopover Services with East Bay Community Action Program took place last summer both organizations benefited—it meant that SOS would have resources not previously available and EBCAP would be able to offer additional services for East Bay residents. East Bay Community Action Program is pleased and honored to be able to recognize Donald and Nancy Cloud for their untiring commitment and support of Stopover Services.

### Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern New England

It's fair to say there would not be a Molar Express without Ronald McDonald Charities of Eastern New England (RMHC)—the organization receiving a 2007 Vision Award.

RMHC provided the care mobile to the Molar Express partnership that includes East Bay Community Action Program along with Comprehensive Community Action Program and Thundermist Health Center. The vehicle was outfitted as a 40 foot long traveling dental office on wheels, containing two fully equipped dental operatories. In addition to the care mobile, RMHC also contributed \$500,000 to the partnership to be used over five years to assist in the operation of the care mobile.

But the gifts of the charitable arm of the McDonald's corporation has extended far beyond the material ones—they have included regular support in marketing, fund raising and public relations for the care mobile, assisting each of the partners in those and other endeavors to assure success.

Edie Stevenson, Executive Director of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern New England has been in the forefront of helping the three partners obtain the care mobile and setting up its operation, as well as taking a leadership role in helping obtain media coverage for the care mobile's visits to various communities.



**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR HONORED:** Tom Kelly, President and CEO of BankNewport, and Chairman of EBCAP's \$2.6 million Capital Campaign, was honored at a celebration marking the successful conclusion of the Campaign held at Carnegie Abbey in Portsmouth. At right is Chief Executive Officer Dennis Roy and at left Chief Operating Officer Susan Schenck.



**NEW CCRI PRESIDENT VISITS HEAD START:** Ray DiPasquale, newly inaugurated President of Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), paid a visit to EBCAP's Head Start classrooms on Chafee Boulevard in Newport as part of his Inauguration Week tour of the state. He toured the facility and had an enjoyable time reading to the children.