

A Campaign for The Arc/Morris 2007 – 2008



Loretta and Julius Krauklis Center



F. M. Kirby Administrative Center



Our Case for Support

Incorporated in 1953 as the Morris County Unit of the New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children, The Arc/Morris County Chapter is the largest provider of services for people affected by mental retardation in Morris County. The Arc/Morris envisions a world in which people with mental retardation and their families are valued and have the opportunity to achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency, independence, and inclusion possible. As such, we are dedicated to the care, support, and advancement of people with mental retardation and their families.



Two of the facilities in which The Arc/Morris operates require significant physical upgrades. The Flanders School, which houses day programs for adults, was originally built in the 1920s and has not had major systems improvements since the 1950s. Renovations to this site have cost approximately \$2,500,000. Our administrative headquarters, located in a former doctor's residence on the campus of Greystone Hospital, needs building and systems renovations that will cost \$500,000.



Questions & Answers

1. Why does The Arc/Morris need to raise \$3 million?

Two of the facilities in which The Arc/Morris operates require significant physical upgrades: The Flanders School, which houses day programs for adults (\$2,500,000), and our administrative headquarters (\$500,000).

Flanders Adult Training Center

The Arc/Morris purchased The Flanders School from the Mount Olive Board of Education in 2006. The building, constructed in the 1920s, required extensive renovations. Recently re-opened, enrollment at The Flanders Adult Training Center (FATC) can now increase capacity from the current 46 being served by another 29, for a total of 75.

Renovations have been structural, systemic, and cosmetic; they have provided complete handicapped-accessibility and ADA compliance. We have installed an elevator and a materials lift, expanded bathroom facilities, and created a dining hall for consumers. Additionally, office, meeting, and large-group space have been created on the second floor.

Beginning in 2008, the completed specially designed unit at the FATC has allowed for a new program to serve people with significant cognitive impairments combined with severe physical/medical issues. Initially funded for 6 consumers, this addition will ultimately serve 15 (included in our increased capacity of 29). With medical special needs services already available at two other sites, this newly renovated unit allows us to expand availability to the western part of the county. To date, The Arc/Morris continues to be the only agency providing medical special needs services in Morris County.

The new space at FATC will also allow for the establishment of an after-school care program for special-needs young adults, and for therapeutic recreation services and activities for children and adults.

Moreover, we have moved administrative and executive personnel to this building from space now under lease, thereby realizing some budgetary efficiency.

Central Administration Building

The administrative headquarters of The Arc/Morris is located on the grounds of Greystone Psychiatric Hospital. However, no significant upgrades have been made since we moved there over 25 years ago. Recently, the County of Morris assumed ownership of most of the Greystone campus, including the building at 1 Executive Drive. The County agreed to a 25-year lease with the understanding that we assume all responsibility for maintenance - and any upgrade - of the physical plant systems and structures.



Questions & Answers

2. Why is this capital campaign important?

Funding for capital improvements projects are not readily available through our usual sources of funding and contracting. Thus, a capital campaign represents the most sensible approach for us to secure the revenue for these capital projects. This is an exciting time in the history of The Arc/Morris as this is the agency's first of this type.

3. Who will benefit from this campaign?

The primary beneficiaries of this campaign are the people who use the Flanders Adult Training Center and its services. The Arc/Morris has an annual service base of more than 1,000 people with mental retardation and their families. Ultimately, we believe that all consumers and staff of the agency will benefit from the enhanced administrative systems and functioning of our improved facilities.

4. How is The Arc/Morris able to finance the project?

The Arc/Morris maintains a prudent operating reserve of 10% of our annual operating budget. These funds are routinely used to cover time lags in contract funding, to advance funds when contract revenue is retrospective, and to provide ready up-front money for facility and residential development projects. In essence, we have established an internal no-interest revolving loan fund. The money spent on the renovations at FATC and those pending at our Administrative Office come from that fund of operating reserves. The purpose of the capital campaign is to secure actual capital funding for the project to replace those borrowed operating dollars.



Questions & Answers

5. How is the campaign progressing?

The Arc/Morris is appreciative of the early leadership gifts we have already received, and the support for our capital projects that these gifts represent. Presently, at this stage of the campaign, we have \$2 million committed towards our \$3 million goal. These generous gifts include:

- \$500,000 from The Arc/Morris Foundation;
- \$500,000 in the form of a bequest from the Ryan Family;
- \$250,000 from the Krauklis Family to name the Flanders School facility;
- \$250,000 from The F. M. Kirby Foundation to name the Central Avenue facility, and
- \$100,000 from the County of Morris.

6. Do you share our values and vision for the future?

It is estimated that 1 out of every 10 individuals is touched by mental retardation in some way. Someone in your family, or a friend, has mental retardation, or has a child or an acquaintance with mental retardation. Maybe it's the brother of a friend, a colleague at work, or a cousin you don't often hear about. It's not a curse, or a death sentence, but it is a life-long challenge for both the person with the disability and their family. The Arc/Morris exists to help such people face that challenge.

We know you believe that people who are disadvantaged by cognitive and physical disability through no fault of their own should be cared for humanely, helped to achieve whatever level of self-sufficiency they may be capable of, and deserve assistance to live a decent life. So do we. Our mission is the care, support, and advancement of people with mental retardation and their families – each element of which is provided according to the needs and abilities of the particular individual.

So, if you care about someone affected by mental retardation – whether from personal experience or philanthropic disposition – then care about The Arc/Morris and the success of this capital campaign. We hope you choose to express your caring by making a gift to our capital campaign.



\$ 3 Million Table of Gifts

| Gift Range | # of Gifts Needed | Total for Gift Range | Accumulated Total |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| \$500,000+ | 3 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 |
| \$250,000+ | 1 | \$250,000 | \$1,750,000 |
| \$100,000+ | 3 | \$300,000 | \$2,050,000 |
| \$50,000+ | 8 | \$400,000 | \$2,450,000 |
| \$25,000+ | 10 | \$250,000 | \$2,700,000 |
| \$10,000+ | 15 | \$150,000 | \$2,850,000 |
| \$5,000+ | 20 | \$100,000 | \$2,950,000 |
| Below \$5,000 | Many | \$50,000 | \$3,000,000 |



Naming Opportunities

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Flanders Facility (<i>Reserved</i>)..... | \$500,000 |
| The Arc/Morris Administrative Building (<i>Reserved</i>) | \$250,000 |
| Flanders Adult Training Center..... | \$100,000 |
| Medical Special Needs Program..... | \$100,000 |
| Flanders Administrative Center (2 nd Floor)..... | \$100,000 |
| Consumer Lunchroom..... | \$75,000 |
| Conference Room (2 nd Floor) (<i>Reserved</i>)..... | \$75,000 |
| Elevator..... | \$50,000 |
| Materials Lift..... | \$50,000 |
| Administrative Waiting Area..... | \$50,000 |
| Technology Room..... | \$50,000 |
| Assistant Executive Director's Office..... | \$50,000 |
| Conference Room (1 st Floor)..... | \$50,000 |
| Staff Lunch Area..... | \$50,000 |
| Computer Network Hub & Wiring..... | \$25,000 |
| File Room..... | \$25,000 |
| Copy Area..... | \$25,000 |
| Offices 1 through 15 (<i>Each</i>)..... | \$10,000 |
| Special Recognition on Campaign Plaque at Flanders Facility..... | \$5,000 |





Board of Directors

Phil Sheehy, President

Kathleen Ingargiola, 1st Vice President

James Gallagher, Treasurer

Thomas Horn, Secretary

Barry Levine, Immediate Past President

Wendy Abrahamson

Alan Adler

Peter Babits

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Walter Bender

Judith Bridgman

Charles Eaton

Lawrence J. McEntee, Jr.

Edward Metz

Gina Orsini

Gwendolyn Utberg

William R. Testa, Executive Director



Key Personnel

William R. Testa, Executive Director

Peter J. Murphy, Associate Executive Director

Ann Espada, Assistant Executive Director

Gail Paradise, Assistant Executive Director

Margo Conley, Director of Habilitation

Gloria Skarzynski-Burt, Director of Residential Services

Adrienne Valentine, Director of Community Support Services

Augustine Achoe, Director of Compensation

Emilia Krasilovsky, Controller

Jerry Daignault, Property Director

J. Benedict Wreh, Personnel Director

50+ Years of Service

- 1953** Formally incorporated as the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children, Morris Unit and joined the National Association for Retarded Children
- 1957** Sheltered Workshop Program established
- 1958** Nursery Class established
- 1959** Boy Scout Troop and Girl Scout Troop started ♦ First Office opened in Morristown
- 1963** “Happy Day” camp began with 14 campers
- 1964** Day Time Care Training Center started
- 1970** First Morris County Special Olympics held
- 1972** Two new school buses were purchased to transport Day Training pupils
- 1977** Early Intervention Program established
- 1978** Purchased the Garland School and relocated offices to the Chester site renamed as Deerhaven
- 1979** Morris County Adaptive Recreational Program (McARP) established
- 1981** Administrative Office moved to Central Avenue on the Greystone Campus
- 1982** Flanders Adult Training Center opened
- 1983** First Group Home opened in Lake Hiawatha, Parsippany Troy-Hills Township (#1)
- 1984** St. Elizabeth's Adult Training Center opened
- 1985** Supported Employment Program started





50+ Years of Service

- 1986** Developmental Day Care program established at the St. Elizabeth location
- 1987** Hanover Adult Training Center opened
- 1988** In-Home Respite Program established ♦ Morristown Behavioral Special Needs Group Home opened (#11)
- 1989** Special Needs Adaptive Preschool (SNAP) opened
- 1990** Randolph Township Group Home dedicated (#12), our first newly constructed home funded by HUD
- 1991** Supportive Living Program established
- 1992** Agency name changed to The Arc/Morris County Chapter, New Jersey, Inc.
- 1993** Morris Township Ketch Road Supervised Apartment Program opened, dedicated as The Harry F. Wilkinson Arc House for Independent Living
- 1994** Aftercare Respite Program established
- 2000** Saturday Respite Program established ♦ Hanover Township Mountain Avenue Group Home opened (#16), our first donated home
- 2001** Dover Adult Training Center opened, serving Medical and Senior Special Needs
- 2003** Parsippany Access I Group Home opened (#18)
- 2004** 50th Anniversary celebrated ♦ Walkathon held for the first time
- 2007** Purchase of Flanders School ♦ Secured long-term, 25 year lease for Central Administrative Headquarters ♦ Initiated first Capital Campaign to raise \$3,000,000



Fast Facts

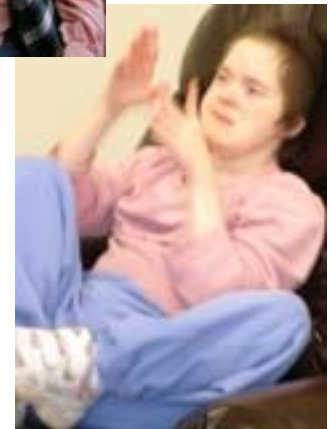
- The Arc/Morris Chapter is Morris County's oldest and largest agency serving people with mental retardation and their families.
- The Arc/Morris Chapter provides a wide range of services including developmental day care, in-home respite, aftercare, recreation, supported employment, adult day services, and residential services.
- Over 1000 individuals and families are served by The Arc/Morris Chapter in the course of one year.
- Over 150 adults with mental retardation are supported in a broad array of licensed, residential services at The Arc/Morris Chapter, including apartments, condominiums, and group homes.
- The Arc/Morris maintains seven separate Adult Training Programs. They are:
 - Dover Adult Training Center – Medical & Senior Special Needs
 - Flanders Adult Training Center
 - Flanders Adult Training Center – Medical Special Needs
 - Hanover Adult Training Center
 - Hanover Adult Training Center – Medical Special Needs
 - Hanover Adult Training Center – Behavioral Special Needs
 - St. Elizabeth Adult Training Center
- Consumers of our Adult Training Centers have completed sub-contract work for numerous companies, including Pfizer/Warner Lambert Division, EBI, Kearney Reclaiming Systems, and Bioelectron.
- Contributions to The Arc/Morris Chapter support programs and services; only 11% is allocated for general and administrative costs.



Now Open!
The Loretta and Julius Krauklis Center



Welcome Back!





New consumer cafeteria area



New Rooftop HVAC System



The refurbished cupola



New Medical Special Needs Unit



New shower area for
Medical Special Needs Unit



Hoyer Lift



Specially equipped bus



New Contract Area



New Woodshop Area



New Materials Lift in Contract Area



New second floor Conference Area

Our Progress To Date





Dillard Kirby, William Testa, Phil Sheehy and members of the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders tour the F. M. Kirby Central Administration Building.

Flood Damage October 2007



Kitchen Ceiling



Kitchen Floor



Second Floor Carpeting



Second Floor Ceiling



Executive Directors Office

Press Releases

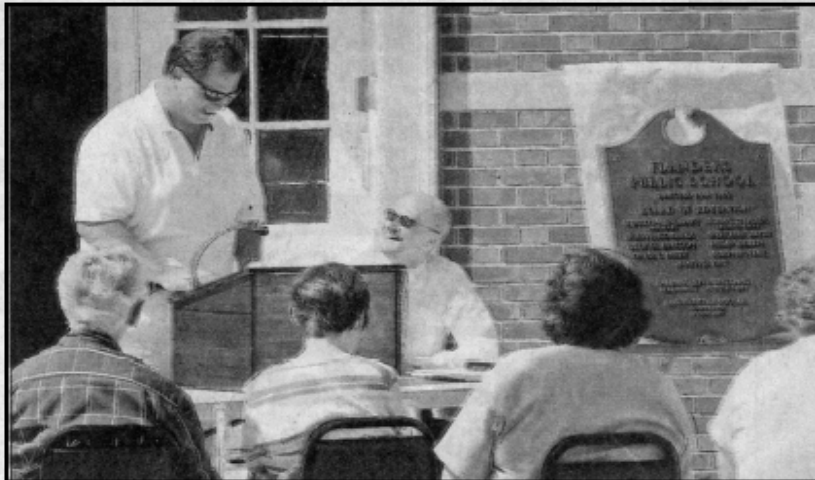
Arc plans to revamp training center

Plans for \$1.3 million renovation to Flanders building unveiled

BY ZENaida MENDEZ
DAILY RECORD

MOUNT OLIVE — The Arc/Morris Chapter soon will temporarily close its adult training center in the former Flanders School and initiate an estimated \$1.3 million building renovation project.

Bill Testa, Arc/Morris Chapter's executive director, and Phil Sheehy, board of directors president, on Thursday unveiled architectural drawings prepared by Michael J. Spagnolo of Dover-based M.J.S. Architects Inc.



DAWN BENKO / DAILY RECORD

Larry McEntee, a Mount Olive Board of Education member, addresses the crowd at a gathering to unveil plans for a \$1.3 million building renovation to the former Flanders School. The Arc/Morris Chapter will temporarily close the site during the renovation.

The Arc/Morris Chapter acquired the Flanders School from the township school district in January, two months after it bid \$100,000 for the building at a public auction. For 23 years prior to that, the Arc leased more than 5,000 square feet in the Flanders School.

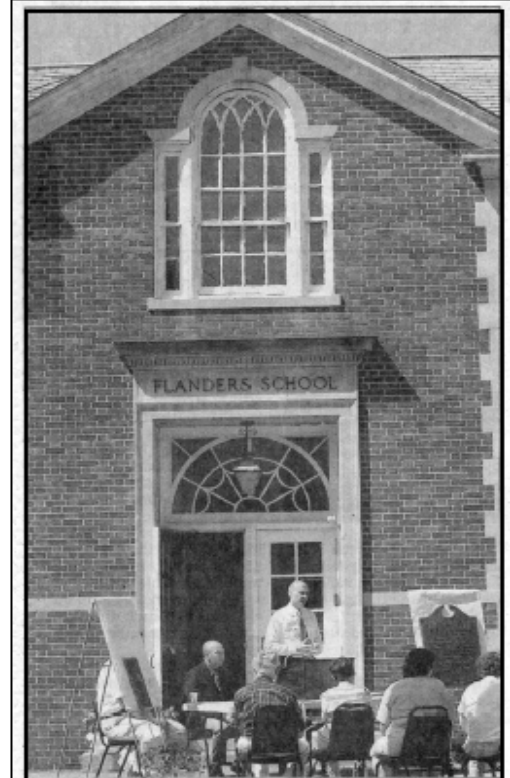
Since October 1982, Arc has

served persons with more severe and profound mental retardation and other kinds of developmental disabilities in that building. "At this point, the plans to my left are just sketches of what we have in mind in terms of a very substantial renovation here," Testa explained to a small crowd gathered in front of the

building Thursday morning.

Arc/Morris Chapter clients, former Flanders School students, Mount Olive schools superintendent Rosalie Lamonte, and board of education member Larry McEntee, were among those in attendance.

Continued on next page



DAWN BENKO / DAILY RECORD

Arc/Morris Chapter tried to return two commemorative plaques that hung in the Flanders School, but the school board told ARC to keep them.

Arc

CONTINUED

"We hope to improve the building for our use but at the same time preserve and improve the building for the community because we really are not only in the community but we're of the community," Testa said.

Among the improvements are window replacement, repaving and lighting of the parking lot, new flooring and a new heating and cooling system.

Also planned is a significant interior renovation.

"In the interior, we're really focusing on the first floor," Testa explained. "The whole place is opening up."

The kitchen, which is located on the front, right-hand side of the building, will be relocated and the space will be converted into the center's personal awareness area, where clients learn basic life skills. In the back of the building, a boiler room and auditorium will be converted into paint, wood shop and contract areas. In the front center will be staff offices and a conference center.

On the left-hand side of the building will be a new lunchroom, project space and a reception area.

Testa also hopes to build a medical special needs area sometime in the future in the center's contract area space.

Additionally, new bathrooms will be installed throughout.

"I feel very fortunate because my son goes here," said Marie McElroy, daughter of the late Chester M. Stephens, longtime school superintendent.

Her son, Brian McElroy, 42, has been an Arc client for 21 years.

"They have an excellent staff and he looks forward to going to work every day," Marie McElroy said. "What would they do all day without a work program? There's really nothing. So it's great for all."

"I'm just glad it's being used," Elizabeth Hildebrand, a Flanders School student when it served the township's elementary school children and current building neighbor, said of the building renovation.

"At one time they talked about tearing it down," she explained. "I'm glad to see somebody have it and use it."

Sheehy said the exact closure

date has not been decided yet. Originally, the Arc considered doing the renovation project in stages, with clients relocated within the building, but building professionals advised that a better strategy would be to close the facility temporarily to get it done.

"It'll be less disruptive, and it will be done much faster," Sheehy explained.

He said that Arc clients will be relocated among the Arc/Morris Chapter's three other adult activity facilities in Morris County, in Dover, Whippany and Convent Station.

In anticipation of the renovation, the Arc on Thursday offered the Flanders School's original and addition dedication plaques to the board of education.

The original dedication plaque is dated 1928-1929. A second plaque, dated 1957, marks the addition onto the school. "We'd like to present these plaques by saying that we're pleased to donate these two dedication plaques to the board of education as a reminder of the many years that the Flanders School served the young people of this community and...those with mental retardation today," Sheehy said.

McEntee, who serves as chair of the board of education's facilities committee, thanked the Arc for the offer and politely declined.

"The history ties to the building and stays with the building," McEntee said. "So a hundred years from now, somebody will know who built this building, why they built it, and who was responsible for the massive building you see in front of you that will continue to serve the people of Mount Olive and Morris County."

Instead, the plaques again will be mounted within the Flanders School building after the renovation is complete.

Zenaida Mendez can be reached at (973) 989-0652 or zmendez@gannett.com

The Arc/Morris Chapter begins major improvement project

The Arc/Morris Chapter, whose mission is the care, support and advancement of people with mental retardation and their families, began a major gift campaign last fall to raise \$3 million to improve the former Flanders School in Mount Olive, as well as their central office, which is located on the grounds of the former Greystone Psychiatric Hospital

in Parsippany.

The F.M. Kirby Foundation responded to the not-for-profit agency's request with a major gift of \$250,000.

S. Dillard Kirby, the foundation's executive director, recently joined representatives of The Arc/Morris Chapter, as well as several Morris County Freeholders, on a visit and tour of what will become the organization's F. M. Kirby

Administrative Center in Parsippany.

While some infrastructure improvements including window replacement and siding have already taken place, a new heating and air conditioning system is now being installed.

Further work is being planned to improve accessibility and better design the former residence to meet the needs of the agency's business and per-

sonnel offices.

For Dillard Kirby, the grant is a further testament to the long standing partnership between the two organizations.

"We have been partners in Morris County for several decades and are so pleased with the impact this major gift will have in this sorely needed area. We are proud to support the agency's work on behalf of people with mental retardation."

While the organization has occupied the space for more than 25 years, it was not until the surplus property, including the building they occupy, was taken over by the county that a more permanent, stable lease arrangement took place.

Crediting the county Freeholders with retaining the building for the agency, the organization's board president, Phil Sheehy, noted that the long

term lease gave the board the confidence to proceed with incorporating the project in its major fundraising campaign.

For the Morris County Freeholders, the improvement is consistent to a major overhaul of the surplus property under way at what will become Morris County's newest park, located across from the Arc/Morris' Central Avenue location.

Morris View to house ARC clients

Agency to place residents at nursing home while residence being renovated

BY MICHAEL DAIGLE

DAILY RECORD

MORRIS TWP. — Morris ARC is expected to move some clients into an unused wing of Morris View nursing home while the agency renovates its Flanders facility, county officials said.

County administrator John Bonanni said he will present the change to the board of freeholders at their Monday meeting.

Edward Facas of the county's department of human services

said that Morris ARC is planning to use a number of rooms in the vacant 2-C wing of the nursing home beginning in September to house clients while work is done on their home in Flanders.

They could stay at Morris View for about six months, he said.

Morris ARC offers services for the developmentally disabled. Officials were unavailable Thursday.

The county is seeking ways to cut costs at the underutilized 439-bed nursing home. The facility has about 290 residents and has been running million-dollar losses each year for the past few years. The facility has an annual

budget of about \$25 million, about half of which is covered by government health care reimbursements.

A report on the nursing home issued this spring said the county should reduce the number of beds, reduce staff and address scheduling issues that lead to excessive overtime. The report called for using private companies for some services and renting space to nonprofit agencies that could help create a system of care at the nursing home.

So far the freeholders have privatized food service management, changed doctor groups and eliminated 85 jobs at the facility in the 2006 county budget. The

Head Start Community Program of Morris County moved into a vacant wing last year.

In May the freeholders signed a \$1.2 million, three-year contract with Family Service of Morris County to take over the adult day care at Morris View and a \$2.8 million, three-year contract with Sodexo Operations LLC to operate the facility's laundry service. Freeholders said those new contracts will save the county \$600,000 a year. Union workers protested the changes at a May meeting.

Michael Daigle can be reached at (973) 267-7947 or at mdaigle@gannett.com.

ARC

F.M. Kirby funds Arc/Morris Chapter gift-giving campaign

The Arc/Morris Chapter, whose mission is the care, support and advancement of people with mental retardation and their families, began a major gift campaign last fall to raise \$3 million to improve the former Flanders School in Mount Olive, as well as their central office, which is located on the grounds of the former Greystone Psychiatric Hospital.

The F.M. Kirby Foundation responded to the not-for-profit agency's request with a major gift of \$250,000. S. Dillard Kirby, the foundation's Executive Director, recently joined representatives of The Arc/Morris Chapter, as well as several Morris County Freeholders, on a visit and tour of what will become the organization's F. M. Kirby Administrative Center.

While some infrastructure improvements including window replacement and siding have already taken place, a new heating and air conditioning system is now being installed. Further work is being planned to improve accessibility and better design the former residence to meet the needs of the agency's business and personnel offices.

For Dillard Kirby, the grant is a further testament to the long standing partnership between the

two organizations. "We have been partners in Morris County for several decades and are so pleased with the impact this major gift will have in this sorely needed area. We are proud to support the agency's work on behalf of people with mental retardation."

While the organization has occupied the space for over 25 years, it was not until the surplus property, including the building they occupy, was taken over by the county that a more permanent, stable lease arrangement took place. Crediting the county Freeholders with retaining the building for the agency, the organization's board President, Phil Sheehy, noted that the long term lease gave the board the confidence to proceed with incorporating the project in its major fundraising campaign.

For the Morris County Freeholders, the improvement is consistent to a major overhaul of the surplus property underway at what will become Morris County's newest park. Just across from the Arc/Morris' Central Avenue location, construction on the first of several roller hockey rinks and ball fields is underway.

According to William Testa, Arc/Morris Executive Director,

"The transformation of what had been a very neglected property for many years will benefit thousands of county residents in the very near future. The Arc/Morris F.M. Kirby Administrative Center will be a major presence - and one we are very proud of given our organizations mutual commitment to the quality of life in Morris County."

The programs and services provided by The Arc/Morris Chapter include developmental day care for children; residential and vocational settings for adults; therapeutic recreation for all ages; and support and respite for families. For more information concerning the agency or how to support the major gift campaign call 973-326-9750 ext. 211.

YOU'VE GOT SOME FRIENDS



PHOTOS BY MIA ROMO/THE STAR-LEDGER

Client Linda Polito works at the day training program at the Julius and Loretta Krauklis Center in Mount Olive. The Krauklis family donated \$250,000 to refurbish the former Flanders School.

Community raises funds for Arc

BY LAWRENCE RAGONESE
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

Cheryl Tobia pushed sandpaper back and forth over a small chunk of wood, smoothing its edges. The Mount Arlington woman, along with a dozen companions, was all business when it came to her woodworking project.

That is, until Bill Testa entered the room, prompting lots of hugs, laughter and a bit of chaos.

"Are we happy to be back home?" Testa asked his enthusiastic charges. "Yes," Tobia and the others shouted in unison, delighted to be back last week in the friendly confines of the refurbished Flanders School in Mount Olive for a day training program run by The Arc of Morris.

It has taken a \$3 million capital campaign by The Arc — once known as the Association for Retarded Citizens — to finance renovations to the Flanders School, so it could be used again for programs for severely retarded persons, said Testa, executive director of the agency. Included is \$2.5 million for the Mount Olive center, while another \$500,000 is expected to be needed to pay for a major rehabilitation of the group's administrative center in Parsippany.

So far, \$1.9 million has been raised, much of it from several major donors, said Testa, who lauded the generosity of friends of The Arc and the public in Morris County for their support. Major donations have come from the following:

■ \$500,000 from the estate of Norma and Robert Ryan of Parsippany, whose daughter Vicki had been a longtime resident at an Arc home until her death a few years ago.



Bill Testa, executive director of The Arc, is greeted by client Janette Seals at the center. "Are we happy to be back home?" Testa asked his charges. The answer was an emphatic "Yes!"

■ \$500,000 from The Arc/Morris Foundation.

■ \$250,000 from the Krauklis family, to honor the late Julius and Loretta Krauklis of Morristown, whose son, James, had been a resident at Arc homes in Morristown and Parsippany. The Flanders School subsequently has been re-named the Julius and Loretta Krauklis Center.

■ \$100,000 from Morris County, through the board of freeholders.

■ \$250,000 from the F.M. Kirby Foundation. The Arc's administrative center subsequently has been re-named the F.M. Kirby Administrative Center.

"We think highly of The Arc's mission and programs," said Dil-

lard Kirby of the Kirby Foundation. "It was obvious their headquarters needed work. We thought it was a good investment."

The Morris County Arc, formed in 1953, serves more than 1,600 county residents and their families, said Testa. It has day training centers in Flanders, Hanover, Dover and Morris Township, serving 175 clients.

The nonprofit group leased space at the Flanders School since the early 1980s from the Mount Olive Board of Education. When the school board jettisoned the property two years ago, The Arc bought the building at auction for a relative bargain price of \$100,000. However,

the more than 80-year-old structure needed plenty of work.

Meanwhile, The Arc's headquarters on the campus of Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital also needs a major upgrade. It is situated in an abandoned doctor's residence the group has leased for \$1 a year since the 1970s.

Though much better off financially than in the old days, undertaking major capital upgrades required The Arc to put out a call to the community for help. Some old friends have come through.

Mary Dinday is one of five Krauklis children. Her brother, James, was born in 1954 with Down syndrome and holes in his

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ARC

CONTINUED

Facilities renovated thanks to friends

heart. Doctors gave him no more than six months to live. But James Krauklis lived to be 50, dying in 2004. He spent much of his life at Arc homes in Morristown and Parsippany.

So, when the call for help was raised, four surviving Krauklis children responded. Mary in California, Andrew in Chicago, Kevin in Alaska and Dorothy in London joined to donate \$250,000.

"Thankfully, we had the financial ability to do this. It couldn't be for a better cause," said Dinday,

who now lives in San Francisco but hopes to return to New Jersey this spring for a formal dedication of the building now named for her parents.

For the past year, while renovations were being done, The Arc moved its Mount Olive training program to space donated by Morris County at its Morris View nursing home in Morris Township. Last week, 46 clients returned to their longtime Flanders home, with new doors and windows, new dining hall, handicapped-access bathrooms, office and meeting space, plus an elevator and loading dock lift.

In addition, a medical special needs unit has been created to handle up to 15 people, said Testa.

During a tour of the facility, Margo Conley, director of The Arc's

four day centers, showed off the new facility.

Clients were being trained in personal daily living awareness, such as learning to wear a coat on a cold day, and practical arts, such as cooking and shopping.

Down the hall, technician Jennifer Rebbein assisted a dozen clients in a woodworking class who were creating wooden coat racks. The group was excited to see Testa and Conley. They made it very clear they loved their refurbished digs.

"It's wonderful, absolutely gorgeous," gushed Tobia, the Mount Arlington woman. "I'm so happy to be back home. We all are."

Lawrence Rapovese may be reached at lravese@starledger.com or (973) 539-7910.

Training for disabled gets a big boost

MOUNT OLIVE TWP. – People with disabilities have found a new home at the old Flanders School on Main Street.

Renovations have been completed, providing new quarters at the former school for the Arc of Morris, which has re-named the building the Krauklis Center.

The Arc of Morris had been leasing space in the school since 1992 to operate an adult training center on the lower level.

The upper level was used by the Deerpath Montessori School and the Mount Olive Child Care and Learning Center. The school district decided to sell the building and the Arc was the high bidder.

The Montessori School moved to new quarters on Route 46 in Budd Lake while the learning center moved to the former public library on Wolfe Road.

"Renovation of the building is now complete and we moved back in three weeks ago," said William R. Testa, executive director of Arc/Morris Chapter.

Arc was formerly known as the Association for Retarded Citizens and provides training and other services to people



Staff and consumers of The Arc Morris Chapter's Adult Training Center celebrated returning to their newly renovated space at the former Flanders School. The facility recently underwent a \$2.5 million improvement which also allows for an expansion of the day program serving adults with severe and profound mental retardation.

with developmental disabilities.

Programs include developmental day care, in-home respite for families, after school programs, residential and day programs, and an extensive recreation program including the Special Olympics.

Waiting List

"The renovated space was needed," said Testa. "There is a

waiting list for services. Virtually every program has a waiting list. Occasionally our services cross county borders, but they primarily help Morris County residents."

Testa said the Flanders center is one of the agency's four adult training centers in Morris County. The others are in Dover, Hanover, and Florham Park and together, they serve about 175

people.

In total, Testa said the Arc helps about 1,000 individuals and families throughout Morris County.

"The unintended consequence of buying Flanders School from the town in 2006 is that we've preserved an 80-year old school building," said Testa.

Continued on next page

TRAINING: Baseball and softball fields will still be used by schools

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"It is a gorgeous building, and this is an adaptive use of its original purpose."

Testa toured the building with Mayor David Scapicchio and Schools Superintendent Rosalie Lamonte last week. He said the Arc is gratified by the amount of local support it received.

"When I walked through that building last week I thought it was absolutely beautiful," said Scapicchio.

"It is a wonderful use for the building, still serving a segment

of the population."

Scapicchio said that not only was the school district able to sell a building they were no longer using, but one of the conditions of sale is the district retained rights to use the baseball and softball fields in the rear.

"It's nice that a partnership was created between the township and us to improve the property," said Testa.

"The old school and property looks better than it has in 25 years."

The Flanders School property holds a special meaning to Testa, because he began his career

with the Arc in the building in 1982.

"To me, it is a great way to preserve part of Flanders history," said Testa.

He said plaques in the building honor the original, 1929 school district members, including John Stephens, son of the former and late schools superintendent, Chester Stephens.

Testa said that today, Brian McElroy, grandson of John Stephens and nephew of Chester Stephens, benefits from the Arc's programs.

The old bell that once rang from the cupola atop the old

school building was removed, refurbished, and will soon sit atop the Arc's new sign in front of the renovated facility.

Testa said from the outside, Flanders School retains its' historical charm, while the inside is modernized and has a new elevator.

The building's new name, the Krauklis Center, honors two of the Arc/Morris Chapter's founders, Julius and Loretta Krauklis.

"The Krauklis family lived in the Morristown area," said Testa. "Their children are spread around the world, but they

wanted to do something to honor the memory of their parents."

The Krauklis family donated \$250,000 toward the overall \$3 million project to renovate the former Flanders School and the Arc's central office in Morris Plains.

The F.M. Kirby Foundation also donated \$250,000.

Testa said windows and siding have been replaced and a new heating and air conditioning system is being installed.

"Further work is being planned to improve accessibility and better design the former

residence to meet the needs of the agency's business and personnel offices," Testa said.

Testa said the Arc still needs another \$1 million to complete the capital projects.

"We are reaching out to foundations, member families and corporations for the remaining funds," said Testa.

"That last million is not easy to get, but once people see what has been done, we hope they will be generous."

For more information about the Arc/Morris Chapter, call (973) 326-9750 ext. 211.



A helping hand for Arc

Jessica Ballew, manager of the Investors Savings Bank in Morris Plains, presents William Testa, executive director of The Arc/Morris Chapter, with a contribution toward the agency's efforts to improve its Flanders and Morris Plains locations. The Arc/Morris serves people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities.