

## SAVE THE DATE

### New To You celebrates 20 years during July!

Month-long discounts and events  
541 Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket

### Flying Shuttles Studio at the PVD Artisans Market

Dates: July 8th, August 5th, September 30th and October 28th  
10-2pm, Lippett Park on the East Side of Providence

### Flying Shuttles at The Loof 2017

A whirlwind of art, music and life at Crescent Park in East Providence  
August 12th, 11am – 6pm (Rain date: August 13th)

### Flying Shuttles Studio at The Out There Art Fair

September 16th, 10am – 4pm  
RHD-RI  
24 Commerce St., Pawtucket

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Pawtucket, RI

SUMMER  
2017



## How the Babiecs celebrate family ... and achievement

When Mary Babiec was asked to speak at the Statehouse on March 28<sup>th</sup> at a rally coordinated by the John E. Fogarty Foundation, she was ready and willing. Mary spoke of her success in the job market and her work at the Mansion Nursing Home in Cumberland. She celebrated her independence by being employed and her ability to pay for household expenses as well as recreational activities.

After her speech, she received a warm hug and compliments from her brother Joe, who had traveled from Boston to hear her speak. This kind of reception from a family member is common for Mary. Joe regularly attends Arc events, meetings, and ceremonies, especially if his sister is involved.

“Walt (another brother) and I are really proud of what Mary has accomplished, and of how confident she is when she tells other people not only what she has done, but what they can achieve themselves,” says Joe, “I’m grateful I’m able to be present for these moments.”

Mary and her two brothers were born and raised in Cumberland and spent extensive time with both sets of grandparents

and her favorite Uncle Ed. “As kids, I remember backyard games like whiffle ball, and playing tennis with both of my brothers” she explains.

Most holidays were spent with extended family. While both parents are deceased, she has fond memories of her mother, who was a school teacher and who faithfully reminded all three children “to do your homework” before going out to play.

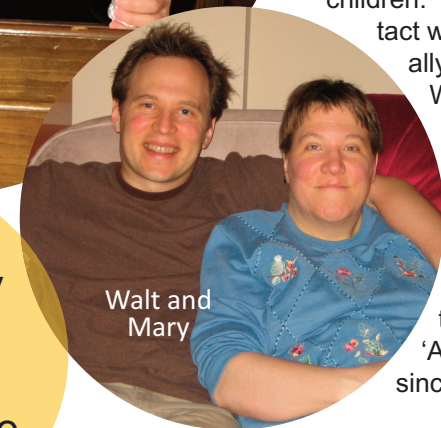
Mary explains that Joe is the one who looks out for her financially but often comes down just to take her out for dinner, especially on her birthday. Her younger brother Walter lives in California, with his wife and two young children. Mary stays in regular contact with both Joe and Walt, usually by phone, text or email.

Walt comments, “Mary emails every day with updates about her job, her bowling scores, the dinners and plays she goes to with her friends...really, each time she comes out to Los Angeles, it feels like ‘Aunt Mary’ has been with us since her last visit.”

Last year, Mary lost her dear friend, Uncle Ed. “We used to do everything together like watch TV, shop or just plain hangout. Uncle Ed will live in my heart forever” commented Mary. But she is happy and grateful to have two supportive brothers who care and stay in touch with her regularly. What is Mary’s role in being a part of this family? “I am just the older faithful sister that checks up on both brothers,” she says with a big smile on her face.



Mary and Joe at the  
RI Statehouse in  
March, 2017



Walt and  
Mary

She tells other people not only what she has done, but what they can achieve themselves

### Donations of \$100 or more from March 1, 2017 through May 31, 2017

#### DONATIONS:

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GRANT: The John E. Fogarty Foundation

IN MEMORIAM:  
Ms. Mary Hird

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN  
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Ms. Karen Brule  
Ms. Mary Hird  
Mrs. Edith Mack





## Letter from the CEO

The Arc's commitment to innovation and high-quality services is evidenced by the leadership and care demonstrated by our employees every day. The team work, dedication, and passion shown by each and every member of our staff was clear on April 5th, as we celebrated individuals for their years of service as well as their special accomplishments during 2016.

Our Professional of the Year award was given to Jon Robillard who has directed SORT and Blackstone Valley Landscaping for many years and was recognized for his strong communication skills, leadership and friendly spirit. In addition, we recognized consumers who made noteworthy accomplishments during the year including Mary Babiec, Joseph Golia, and Joseph Blanchard. We hope everyone will take a minute to read the newsletter sections celebrating our recent awardees.



Jon Robillard, Professional of the Year with Elaine Scott and Kathy Hunt

In March, we reached out to families and friends for our annual Membership drive and we are happy to report that as of May 17, we had raised over \$8,000. Private contributions are critical to our agency, as this income is directed to expenses that are not covered by State funding, such as community-based social and recreational programming. A membership contribution is also a vote of confidence that the Arc is all about families, quality services and the provision of inclusive experiences for all to enjoy. If you missed our campaign, feel free to mail the enclosed envelope, with a "membership" note on the envelope or on the check. Our website ([www.bvcriarc.org](http://www.bvcriarc.org)) has a secure Paypal portal for submitting contributions on line.

On June 5th, we had a very successful Annual Golf Outing and Live Auction under the leadership of our Chair, Melanie Cherry and with emcee Alison Bologna and auctioneer Billy Simas. By the end of May, we had raised a record \$30,750 in sponsorships and had over 88 eager golfers signed up. The cold and dreary weather did not seem to deter people, as everyone stayed through dinner and the auction. I cannot thank our lead sponsors enough for their support: Starkweather and Shepley at the Platinum level and our two Gold Sponsors, Pannone, Lopes, Devereaux and O'Gara and Klein Hornig, LLP.

It is no secret that the human services field continues to be challenged by funding cuts. It is with this in mind that I once again thank each and every Arc donor for believing in our work. We could not be who we are without your support.

John J. Padien III  
Chief Executive Officer



Mike Tavares and Kathy Hunt celebrate Virginia Platt as she accepts the **Employee of the Year Award**. Ginny, as she is known to most, has worked on Team 2 in the apartment program since 2009. She is known for her compassion and strong work ethic as well as her willingness to help other teams in need of staffing. Congratulations Ginny!

### 2016 Annual Awards Recipients

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS**  
**Joseph Golia**  
**Joanne Luongo**

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD**  
**Mary Babiec**

**INDIVIDUAL SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENT**  
**Ryan Dorrance**  
**Tia Waters**

**MILDRED McLAY AWARD**  
**Joseph Blanchard**

**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
**Virginia Platt**

**PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
**Jonathan Robillard**

## Showcasing our amazing Arc family!

Joanne Luongo received a **Special Recognition Award** for 8 years of work as a volunteer visiting artist with Flying Shuttles Art and Weaving Studio. Her work includes setting up various workshop stations for the artists such as puppet making, peg loom weaving, mono printing and book making. Thank you Joanne for sharing your talents with our artists!



Joseph Golia's acceptance speech for his **Special Recognition Award** was as inspiring as his lifelong journey to obtain a driver's license. Believing in himself and asking for help from staff in the Resource Center, Joe successfully passed the written exam and the road test. His goal was to get his license so he could find a good paying job in the automotive field and eventually buy a car. Congratulations Joe, we applaud you on this great accomplishment!



Joe Blanchard received the **Mildred McLay Award** on April 5th



**25 Years of Service** honorees Dale Kennedy, Lisa Dantzler, Lisa DiSalva, presented by Dale Newton on the left and Diane Sanford on the right

## A successful Golf Outing and live auction!

We had one of our best Golf Outings ever, with 72 golfers who braved the elements on June 5th and many generous sponsors and auction bidders who stayed with us throughout the evening. It was team effort with amazing leadership provided by Arc Board Member and Golf Outing Chair, Melanie Cherry.

*Thank you especially to our major sponsors:*

**Starkweather & Shepley**  
Platinum Sponsor

**Pannone, Lopes, Devereaux & O'Gara, LLC**  
Gold Sponsor

**Klein Hornig, LLP**  
Gold Sponsor

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNING TEAMS:



Low Net Team: Tufts Health Plan with Jim Jette, Jim Delisle, Cashel Scanlon, Jonathon Thompson



Low Gross Team: Rotary Club of Pawtucket with Kevin Tracy, Jeff Furtado, Paul Robert, Bill Hunt

### 2016 Annual Awards Recipients

**Thirty Years:**  
**Frank Howard, Jr.**

**Twenty-five Years:**  
**Lisa Dantzler**  
**Lisa DiSalva**  
**Dale Kennedy**  
**Kathy Hunt**

**Twenty Years:**  
**Jodi DeResta**  
**Laurie Doyle**  
**Angie Tucker**  
**Tia Waters**  
**J. Michael Wreh**

**Fifteen Years:**  
**James Arrington**  
**Karen Baldwin**  
**Morris Bryant**

**Sherry Buckless**  
**Jennifer Desautel**  
**Janice Landry**  
**Dwight Phillips**  
**Pierre Ridore**  
**Julie Rodrigues**

**Ten Years:**  
**Abraham Bleh**  
**James Coleman**  
**Augustus Mitchell**

**Anita Obeng**  
**Irene Ramos**  
**Trisha Valcourt**  
**Mickie Williams**  
**Jack Padien**

**Five Years:**  
**Frientzdy Dabady**  
**Evelyn Osondu**  
**Danielle Ouellette**

## EMPLOYMENT CORNER:

### DO YOU HAVE A LEAD?

Individuals supported by the Arc of Blackstone Valley are looking for work experience and employment opportunities in the following areas:

**AUTOMOTIVE: PARTS AND SERVICES, DEALERSHIP, CAR WASH**  
This job seeker has an interest and love of cars and is a meticulous worker. Previous work experience includes jobs in food service and a car wash.

**FOOD SERVICE: KITCHEN HELPER, FOOD PREPARATION, DISHWASHER**  
This job applicant is interested in working in a restaurant, catering business, hospital cafeteria or health care facility. Previous work experience includes restaurants and cafeterias in the Pawtucket area.

**LANDSCAPING: SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL**  
This job seeker is proficient in all aspects of landscaping including gas powered weed whackers, power blowers, zero turn riding lawn mowers and hedge trimming. He has 8 years of experience in the field and is reliable, hard-working and looking for competitive employment.

**Call Armand Gaudet at (401) 727-0150 if you have a lead!**