



# enable link

individualized services for children & adults with disabilities

fall 2002  
newsletter

## allyn's launch annual campaign



*Penny and Bill Allyn.*

**B**ill and Penny Allyn, Honorary Chairs of Enable's Annual Campaign, have a goal of raising \$30,000 between now and March. The Allyn's understand the valuable service that Enable provides to the community. During a recent visit to Enable the Allyn's said, "Enable's response to our community has been professional, compassionate and empowering for people with disabilities. A gift to Enable will assist in obtaining specialty high-tech equipment to give the gift of communication to someone who cannot speak. Showing your support will provide opportunities for young children with developmental delays and their parents to learn skills needed to be ready for kindergarten. Your donation will make a difference in the lives of over 1,700 children and adults with disabilities who live right here in our community. Bill and Penny ask that you please send donations to Enable, 1603 Court Street, Syracuse, New York 13208.

## rotary club of dewitt supports enable

**A** special "thank you" to the members of the Rotary Club of Dewitt for their grant of \$500 toward the purchase of a voiced-output communication system. Their donation will be combined with the proceeds from the Visit the Vineyards fund raiser to purchase a Pathfinder augmentative communication system.

## executive director honored

**T**he Cerebral Palsy Association of New York State recognized Sara Wall-Bollinger, Executive Director of Enable with the Daniel Wieder Professional Leadership Award. This award is given in recognition of an individual whose high level of professional leadership has set a standard for others to follow and whose dedication has improved the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Sara Wall-Bollinger was appointed Executive Director of Enable in 1991. During her tenure Enable's annual budget has grown from \$3.3 million to over \$11 million. Under her leadership several new programs and services have developed at Enable including Medicaid Waiver programs as well as Project Adapt, Aquatic Therapy, Rehabilitation Counseling, and Sensory Integration. Ms. Wall-Bollinger was instrumental in the development of Self-Directed Personal Services, the upstate consumer-directed home care program. Now available statewide, this service demonstrates the capacity of individuals with disabilities to manage their own care. Her vision and leadership have helped Enable become a strong presence in the Central New York community. Ms. Wall-Bollinger has also been active at the state level, serving as Chairperson of the New York State Rehabilitation Council.

"I appreciate Enable's program participants for knowing what could be better, expressing their wishes so that I could see the path, and then for being incredibly patient while the funding and regulatory cogs turned to make some of their dreams come true." said Sara Wall-Bollinger in her acceptance speech in Albany.



# meet victor

**V**ictor, a 'larger-than-life' puppet using a wheelchair, was created through a grant to Enable from Senator John DeFancisco's Cultural Resources Council Arts and Cultural Grant Program. Enable and Open Hand Theater collaborated to design and construct Victor over the summer.



"This has been an incredible opportunity for participants of Enable's Day Habilitation program, Community Networks, to design, construct and paint a large scale street puppet at the Open Hand Theater Puppet Museum and at Enable," says Cris Drozd, Networks Program Coordinator at Enable. "The individuals who have participated in this project have developmental and physical disabilities, and this unique project has offered them a chance to showcase their talents and been a wonderful opportunity to learn about another community gem - Open Hand Theater!"



*Participants and staff of Enable's Community Networks Day Habilitation Program operated Victor at the parade for Open Hand's festival and at the Westcott Street Cultural Fair parade in September.*

*September 14 Enable and Open Hand Theater introduced "Victor" to the public at a parade during the 4th Annual International Arts & Puppet Festival at the Open Hand Theater's International Mask & Puppet Museum on 518 Prospect Avenue, Syracuse.*



"Leslie Archer, Musical Director, and Vladimir Vasyagin, Artist in Residence of Open Hand Theater have shared their wealth of talent, time and energy with our staff and participants to teach us all about puppetry and involve us fully at every level of the process," says Drozd. "This project could not have been completed without the generous donations of materials from local businesses," explains Drozd. "Truly this project has been representative of the best our community has to offer to each other."

## mentoring day

### enable coordinates national event



**T**he American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) and the U.S. Department of Labor proudly presented "National Disability Mentoring Day (NDMD): Career Development for the 21st Century," which was commemorated across the country on Wednesday, October 16, 2002.

Enable served as Local coordinator for NDMD for the Central New York Region. The day began with a breakfast for invited guests and participants hosted at the Courtyard by Marriott and underwritten by SUNY Upstate Medical University.

NDMD promotes the employment of students and job seekers with disabilities through job shadowing and personal mentoring. With leadership, coordination, and resource materials from AAPD, agencies across the country, including Enable, organize activities that bring job seekers and employers together for one-on-one mentoring with volunteers at public and private places of employment. Enable placed mentees with mentors from several local businesses and corporations, including University Hospital, Cingular Wireless, Pitney Bowes, Verizon, and Niagara Mohawk a National Grid Company.



*From Pitney Bowes Management Services (back row from left) mentors Jeremy Snow and Mike Bell. (Seated from left) Mentees Ryan Armstrong and José Cañadas*



*At Verizon mentor Kim Street and mentee Vertell Pendarvis (seated)*

*From SUNY Upstate Medical University mentors Rhonda Butler (left) and Andrea Kennedy with mentee Joyce Herrington*

# 75 miles leads to \$2,000 for enable



**D**r. Eva Briggs asked family, friends and colleagues for pledges. “My feeling was that I could spend a little time and energy raising people’s consciousness, that if everybody chipped in maybe what they spend for pizza and soda or beer on a weekend, that money could be used for a purpose.” said Dr. Briggs. She rode her bike 75 miles from Syracuse to Elmira and raised over \$2,000 for Enable. It’s people like Dr. Briggs who make a difference.

## key bank volunteers

**A**wonderful crew of Key Bank volunteers - Bob Vertucci, Rick Shirtz, Andrea Kahn, Margie Gordon, Sue DeRushia, Charlie Vita, Joe Cunningham and Liz Cartini joined participants and staff of Community Networks for “Neighbors Make A Difference Day” on September 24. Everyone enjoyed a perfect sunny afternoon playing a wild game of kickball at Onondaga Lake Park and then cooled down during a more sedate walk along the waterfront. Thank You Key Bank volunteers!



## a fund raising success

**N**oreen and Michael J. Falcone, Honorary Chairs and Bob Maltbie, Event Chair, thank all who attended Enable’s second annual Visit the Vineyards fundraiser at Justin’s Grill, raising over \$5,000 for the Assistive Technology Program.

Guests enjoyed stations featuring fine wines selected by Chuck Pascale; delicious foods, a spectacular silent auction, and each guest received a beautiful wine glass charm.

Special appreciation to The Young Agency for providing underwriting and to volunteer committee members: Susan Cronin, Barb Czarnecki, Lori Davis, Maureen McCarthy, Chuck Pascale, Cheryl Roe, Marty Schwab, and Larry Stewart, as well as staff liaisons, Susan Haanschoten and Tracie Baule. Proceeds from Visit the Vineyards, combined with a grant from the Rotary Club of Dewitt, will be used to purchase a device called a Pathfinder that enables people who cannot speak to communicate. Enable strives to provide quality language, assistive technology, and therapy services to people with disabilities, their families and professionals. With the assistance of volunteers, underwriters, patrons, and the Pathfinder, children and adults with disabilities will have the power to communicate even the simplest, but most powerful of words: ‘thank you.’



*Committee and Enable Board member, Susan Cronin and her husband, Michael enjoy their second year at Visit the Vineyards*



*The winner of the 2002 Mystery Wine Contest, Andrew Bobreck, (left) receives a wine and cheese basket prize from Bob Maltbie, Visit the Vineyards Committee Chair*



*Mary Mathews (left) and Connie Moore sample wines from Glenora Wine Cellars at a table staffed by Larry Stewart, a member of the Visit the Vineyards Committee*

## in memoriam

**H**earfelt sympathy and sincere gratitude to the families and friends of:

*Jeffrey Chisamore*

*Matthew A Donner, Jr.*

*Paul F. Schoeck, Jr.*

*Mary A. Torrey*

*for remembering Enable during their time of loss.*



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sara wall-bollinger  
*executive director*

cheryl mitchell  
*executive secretary*



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## upcoming events

*December 16th 2002* ..... *NYS Vocational Rehabilitation State Plan Meeting*  
([www.vesid.nysed.gov](http://www.vesid.nysed.gov))

*February 4th 2003* ..... *Syracuse Auto Dealers Association Charity Preview.*  
*Please designate Enable!*

*March 27th 2003* ..... *Shining Lights Annual Awards Celebration hosted by*  
*Bill & Penny Allyn at The Lodge in Skaneateles.*

*June 17th 2003* ..... *Claire L. Smith Golf Classic to Benefit Enable*

*For additional information on any event please call Susan 315-455-7591 x 284.*

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**TTY: (315) 455-1794 • Web Site: [www.enablecny.org](http://www.enablecny.org)**

**Direct Voice Lines: Children & Family Services (315) 475-1382 • Community Services (315) 432-9154**

### Enable's Services

Advocacy  
Aquatic Therapy  
Assistive Technology  
Augmentative Communication  
Certified Residential Settings  
Computer Access & Training  
Day Habilitation  
Diagnostic Assessment  
Early Intervention Evaluation  
Family & Individual Support  
Home & Community Based Services

Inclusive Pre-School  
Special Education  
Individual & Group Counseling  
Itinerant Special Education  
Neurology Services  
Occupational Therapy  
Personal Assistance  
Physical Therapy  
Pre-School Evaluation  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Residential Habilitation

Service Coordination  
Speech & Language Therapy  
Supported Employment  
Support Groups

### Affiliations:

Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS  
United Way of Central New York  
United Way of Greater Oswego County  
Association for Persons in Supported Employment  
National Association for the  
Education of Young Children