



Melmark   
Messenger  
Extra





*Nicholas C.*



*Joseph G.*



*Emma H.*



*John H.*



*Ilana I.*



*Kiara L.*



*Krish M.*



*Anthony S.*

*(On the cover) Michael and his parents enjoy Melmark New England's recent Family BBQ*



*Anthony with his family, teachers and staff from The Melmark School*

## **Congratulations to the 2018 Melmark PA graduates!**

In May, teachers and staff of Melmark PA said farewell to graduates, Nick, Joey, Emma, John, Ilana, Kiara, Krish, and Anthony. The dedication and support of teachers and staff, and their use of evidence-based practices helped the graduates to achieve their individual goals.

We wish them much success in the future!



*Ilana and her mother*

# Melmark New England's Spring Sip 'n Savor



*(from left) Frank Bird, Peter Troy, William Ahearn, Rita Gardner, Peggy and Greg Strakosch, Mary Gene and John Clavin, and Helena Maguire*

Family members, donors, friends and staff gathered together in May for a Sip 'n Savor event celebrating the official opening of the Melmark Café. The festivities included kitchen tours led by Chef Eric and his right-hand man, Chef Dave, and remarks by Melmark President and CEO, Rita Gardner, who highlighted some of MNE's achievements over the last 20 years, culminating in this latest initiative. Rita thanked the generous donors whose gifts helped make the Café a reality, including lead donors Peggy and Greg Strakosch, Mary Gene and John Clavin, JJ Healy and the Healy Family Foundation, Elizabeth and Tom Farrell, Linda and Mark Tuthill, Aramark, Autism Speaks, Boston Bruins Foundation, and The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation.

Residential staff gave tours of Birch House, and the Yawkey Foundation was recognized for its generous support with the placement of a bench outside each of the campus homes. A delicious smorgasbord gave guests a glimpse into the array of culinary delights Chef Eric and his team prepare for students and staff each day.

Helena Maguire, Executive Director, walked everyone through the process of a student going through the lunch line, operating the cash register and point-of-sale system and working in the dishwashing room. Each of these activities fosters increased independence and demonstrates the expansion of vocational programming that the new Melmark Café offers to our students and adult participants.



*Visitors had a chance to explore the new Melmark Café*



*Chef Eric gave a tour of the new kitchen*



## Melmark New England Family Cookout

On Wednesday, June 13, Melmark New England had a fantastic turnout for the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting and annual June Family BBQ. While Chef Eric and members of the Administration team cooked hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken on the grill, other members of the team helped keep the food tables stocked and guests happy.

The teachers turned up the fun with activities including bounce houses, pool games, face painting, snow cones and popcorn! We are grateful to Carol Mouradian, a Mary Kay Consultant, who provided sunscreen samples, held a product raffle and donated 10 percent of all sales to MNE. It was wonderful to see so many MNE families represented (including grandparents, aunts and uncles), all enjoying the festivities. Thank you to everyone who helped us make the afternoon a great success. We look forward to seeing you all again at the Fall Family BBQ on Friday, September 14, 2018!



*Jamils and his staff blow bubbles*



*Jacob and his staff are all smiles*



*Aubrey and Jordan with their mom (center) and staff*





*Hayden with his family*



*Desiree (seated, left) and Nicole (standing, right) with staff*



*Mia with her dad*

## Melmark PA's Family Fun Day and Walk and Roll

In June, Melmark PA held the second annual Family Fun Day and Walk and Roll! It was a full day of fun activities, and a 1k loop that our adults, children and their families can walk (or roll). There was also a quiet 1k course, for those who preferred less noise and activity. Many of our families attended and enjoyed the games, the music, face painting, and food.

Before the event kicked off, the highlight of the morning was the closing performance of "Footloose" by the Melmark Players.







*Gala attendees in the Bellevue ballroom*



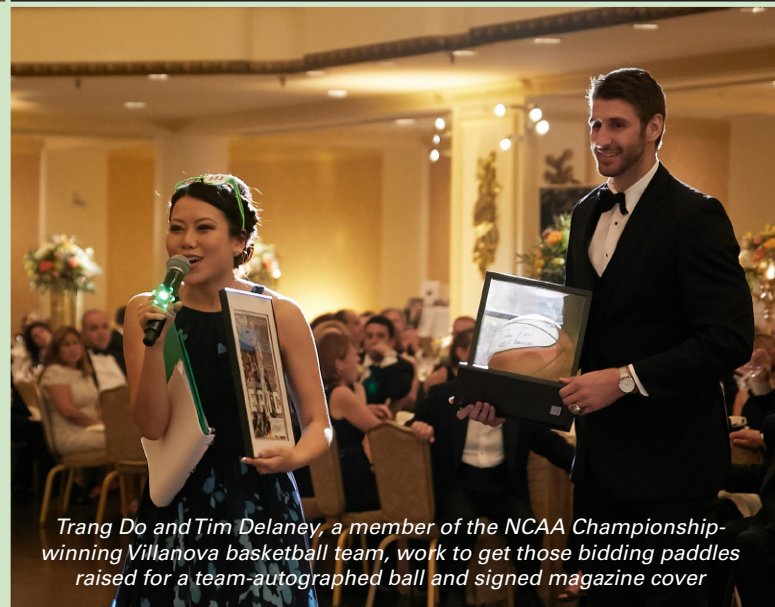
*Rita Gardner, President and CEO, Melmark, along with Trang Do, Emcee, present the Melmark Humanitarian Award to Callum Radcliffe, student in The Melmark School, and his family*

## Dream Maker's Ball

Melmark PA celebrated its ninth biennial Dream Maker's Ball in May. CBS 3's Trang Do served as the emcee for the evening which raised \$491,000, helping to fund the construction of a new state-of-the-art school facility for students in The Melmark School.

This year we also celebrated a Melmark milestone achievement — the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Melmark New England which was founded in 1998 to meet the complex educational needs of students with autism spectrum disorders and a wide range of intellectual disabilities and challenging behaviors.

This signature event has successfully created awareness and has raised over \$4 million since its inception in 2001 for the programs and individuals served at Melmark Pennsylvania.



*Trang Do and Tim Delaney, a member of the NCAA Championship-winning Villanova basketball team, work to get those bidding paddles raised for a team-autographed ball and signed magazine cover*



*Representing the Hubert J.P. Schoemaker Classic, Rich Decker, Shawn O'Brien, Dr. Lesley Russell, and Denny Willson, make their way to the stage to accept the Melmark Golden Hero Award*



*Cyndie Martin, Director of Corporate and Community Affairs, accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award*



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MELMARK NEW ENGLAND

*Mission*

*Possible*

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

6:30 TO 11:00 P.M.

Black Tie optional





*Members of the Joybells with Adam Vidiksis, who composed the piece the group performed*



*The Joybells performing on the Kimmel Center stage*

## Joybells Perform with Selected Members of the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra

Joybells of Melmark and selected Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra musicians performed an original composition, "Contemplation," by Adam Vidiksis, Composer-in-Residence for the Chamber Orchestra. The Joybells had back to back performances – The Kimmel Center, on Saturday, and The Episcopal Academy on Sunday, where they played additional selections from their repertoire.



*The Joybells and select members of the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra performing at The Episcopal Academy*





**13<sup>th</sup> Annual *fore*  
Melmark  
New England  
Golf Tournament**



**September 10, 2018  
Andover Country Club**

For more information, contact  
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[www.melmarkne.org/golf2018](http://www.melmarkne.org/golf2018)

**Hubert J.P. Schoemaker  
Classic**



**13<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Melmark  
Pennsylvania  
Golf Tournament**



**October 15, 2018  
Philadelphia Country Club**

For more information go to:  
[www.schoemakerclassic.com](http://www.schoemakerclassic.com)



# Upcoming Events

August 26	<b>Melmark NE</b> Classic Car Show
September 10	<i>fore</i> <b>Melmark NE</b> Golf Tournament
September 13	<b>Melmark NE</b> Family Cookout and Fun Day
September 14	<b>Melmark NE</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Comedy Night, The Claddagh Pub, Lawrence MA
September 25	<b>Melmark PA</b> Parents Back to School Night
October 15	<b>Melmark PA</b> Hubert J.P. Schoemaker Classic, Philadelphia Country Club, Gladwyne, PA
October 27	<b>Melmark NE</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Shire, Lexington, MA



Max with his grandmothers at the Melmark NE Family Cookout



Erin and Marc at the Melmark PA Family Walk and Roll