



Saturday, April 20, 2024 6:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.

THE MELMARK
ream.

Call
Melmark
Generations



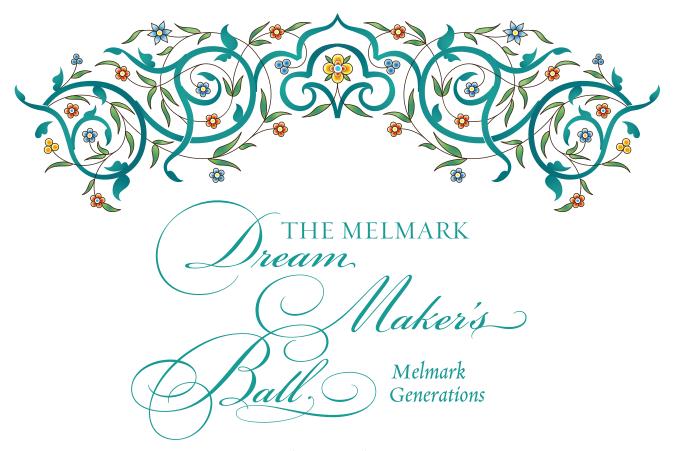


Mission First. Every Individual, Every Day.®





Employee Benefits | Property & Casualty | Wealth Management | Retirement Planning Services



Saturday, April 20, 2024

CRYSTAL TEA ROOM The Wanamaker Building, Philadelphia, PA

Black Tie

6:00 P.M.

Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction

7:00 P.M.

Performance by The Melmark Players
Dinner and Entertainment

8:00 P.M.

Honoree Award Presentations Live Auction and Paddle Raise

9:00 P.M.

Dessert and Dancing to Del's Groove



Mission

Melmark is a multi-state human service provider with premier private special education schools, professional development, training, and research centers. We are committed to enhancing the lives of individuals within diverse communities with autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families by providing exceptional evidence-based and applied behavior analytic services to every individual, every day.

VISION

Our vision is to expand and raise the quality of service-delivery systems throughout the country by disseminating and replicating the Melmark Model of Program Development and Clinical Treatment.



OUR CORE COMMITMENTS Compassionate Care

Melmark provides a diverse and inclusive culture of ongoing care, support, and respect for the individuals we serve, their families, and our staff.

Integrity in Everything We Do

Melmark consistently assesses the fidelity of organizational, staff, and performance management systems to ensure educational and clinical standards are achieved and maintained.

Highly-Skilled Workforce

Melmark applies performance-based training and professional growth opportunities to enhance the skill set for a diverse and inclusive workforce.

Evidence-Based Practices

Melmark uses scientific evidence and performance data to inform all decision-making.

Unified Culture

Melmark values all stakeholders without exception to disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, ethnicity, religious affiliation, national origin, geographic location, service line, tenure, or professional credentials. We are a unified culture to ensure fulfillment of our mission and vision

Best Outcomes

Melmark affects positive change in the quality of life of the individuals we serve within our diverse and inclusive communities by implementing data-driven trend analyses.



Our sincere thanks to our 2024 Dream Maker's Ball Committee members for their time, talent, and generous support.

Karen Blake and James Fox Gayle and Michael Braunstein Kimberly and Stephen Bruhns Marley and Michael Dolente Sarah Eckert and Michael Leibowitz

Rita M. Gardner

Rosalie and S. Robert Grass

Lorraine and James Hahn

Connie Anne Phillips Harris and Jeremiah Harris

Allyson McAndrews and Matt Washo

Caitlin McAndrews and Brendan Mullarkey

Elizabeth and Dennis McAndrews

Dr. Maureen McMahon

Mary and David Maurer

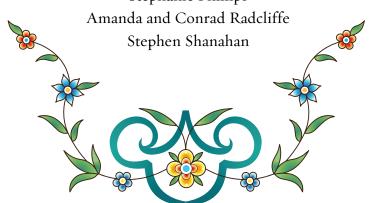
Clive Mendelow

Heather and Daniel Mendelow

Ellen Phillips

Richard Phillips

Stephanie Phillips





DEAR MELMARK FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND STAFF,

I am honored to have you join us this evening at the 2024 Dream Maker's Ball as we celebrate Melmark Generations. The inspiration for tonight's theme is rooted in close to 60 years of mission-driven work to serve those who need it the most. Generational impact embodies the concept that decisions made by one generation reverberate across time, eventually mitigating challenges for subsequent generations.

Melmark's generational impact has grown exponentially, highlighted just last year during the dedication of Tony's Café, our new student cafeteria. The Café was named in honor of Tony Phillips, a long-time resident of Melmark who passed away in 2017. The dedication of the new space in his memory brought together generations of his family members and friends as well as many

staff members, past and present, who loved working with Tony. While paying tribute to Tony as part of a past generation, his legacy is now embedded in a unique new space that will benefit future generations of Melmark individuals.

That event is just one of thousands of Melmark Moments, and more importantly, is symbolic of one of Melmark's greatest strengths—the generations of people who have dedicated their time, expertise, generosity, and care to ensure fulfilling lives for every individual we serve—yesterday, today, and long into the future.

This type of impact would not be possible without philanthropic support, and for that, I extend my deepest gratitude. From buying a ticket to the *Dream Maker's Ball* or participating in the Hubert J.P. Schoemaker Classic, to making a donation to our annual fund, capital projects, special initiatives, or endowment, your support makes what we do possible.

I am incredibly proud of our recent accomplishments and what we are building for future generations. We are nationally recognized for the high-quality services we provide, and our spaces reflect that, including a new state-of-the-art school building and a residential treatment facility home that has allowed us to serve additional children and families in need. As part of a multi-phase health and wellness initiative, with a particular focus on serving our medically fragile and aging individuals, we have commenced construction on an expanded Healthcare Center. Additionally, our new Activities Center will feature a gym designed in partnership with our rehabilitative services team, a staff gym, and an upgraded performance stage in support of our creative arts skill-building activities. The next phase of the project will include a new outdoor, multi-purpose surface court and renovations and upgrades to the Anne and Brutus Kenan Adult Day Center areas.

Melmark continues to elevate the field and raise the quality of service-delivery systems in internal program delivery and throughout the country by disseminating and replicating the Melmark Model of Program Development and Clinical Treatment. Through a developing program called the EnvisionSMART™ Institute, Melmark showcases a four-book practitioner series, peer-reviewed research articles, and a proprietary software. Combined, this program provides an all-encompassing array of well-researched, documented tools to enable other providers to utilize the Melmark Model for Program Development. This will raise the standard of services while addressing every aspect of the critical educational, clinical, and administrative functions that are vital to evidence-based, special education programs.

Additionally, under the leadership of one of tonight's honorees, Executive Vice President of Clinical Services Frank L. Bird, Melmark's highly-skilled staff have contributed professional research and best practices through peer-reviewed publications, with over 150 published articles in the last five years.

I would like to extend a special thank you to this year's *Dream Maker's Ball* Committee, a reflection of the generations of family members and friends who support Melmark, and our generous sponsors for helping us make dreams come true for the families we serve.

While our commitment to care and compassion is what drives us, and helping our individuals live lives of meaning and joy inspires us, it has been our *Melmark Generations* who empower us to boldly move forward and provide the best possible outcomes for past, present, and future generations. We envision a world in which individuals have the possibility of living their best lives.

With heartfelt appreciation, we are Mission First. Every Individual, Every Day.

Rita M. Gardner, M.P.H., LABA, BCBA, CDE®

President and CEO, Melmark





Melmark President and CEO Rita M. Gardner with Ellen Phillips, mother of Tony Phillips and former Melmark board member, at the dedication ceremony for Tony's Café.



This Evening's Emcee



Karen Rogers

Karen Rogers is the meteorologist for Action News Mornings and Action News at 10 A.M. Karen earned her seal of approval from the American Meteorological Society. She holds a certificate in Broadcast Meteorology from Mississippi State University following three years of studies in atmospheric sciences and geosciences.

Karen also holds degrees in Communication and Sociology from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, where she was valedictorian of her communication class and the class speaker for commencement. Karen is listed in "Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities." After graduating with honors, Karen traveled to the United Kingdom as a Rotary International Scholar, where she pursued her graduate studies in Broadcast Journalism. After graduation, Karen briefly worked at WHSP-TV in Vineland, NJ, where she anchored daily news cut-ins, interviewed political leaders for her monthly show, Congressional Report, and hosted weekly talk shows.

Karen was born and raised in New Jersey along with her nine brothers and sisters. She says she grew up watching Action News and never imagined she would one day be a member of the Action News Team. She joined the station in 1996 as a reporter and producer for the show *AM/Philadelphia*. Karen quickly joined the AccuWeather team and found her true passion in weather forecasting.

Along with her role in news, Karen was a longtime host of FYI Philly, and is part of 6abc specials including The Auto Experience, the 6abc Dunkin' Thanksgiving Day Parade, and the Philadelphia Flower Show Special.

In addition to her work at 6abc, Karen is active in supporting young people. She says one of her most rewarding experiences was working with the Child Assault Prevention Program teaching elementary school students empowerment skills for reporting and preventing abuse.

Karen says she drives to work every morning feeling blessed to work.





Dream Maker Presenting Sponsors

Sarah Kenan Kennedy Clay and Garrett Kirk

DREAM MAKER LEGACY SPONSORS

Mary and Larry Kent

Dream Maker Evening Sponsors

Dr. Maureen McMahon The Phillips Family: Ellen, Richard, Stephanie, and Connie Anne Phillips Harris and Jeremiah Harris

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Pierre Koncurat Foundation
Ron and Mary Owen
Lesley Russell and Christopher Cooper

Denny and Claudia Willson



Thank You

Special Thanks to Melmark Staff Members and Friends for Their Invaluable Contributions to the 2024 Dream Maker's Ball:



The Adult Day Program

Lindsay Bly

Patti Boreanaz

Jim Calvarese

Ella Campfield

Samantha Chamberlin

Thomas Crofcheck

Lizzy Dalton-Negron

Glorialyz De Los Santos

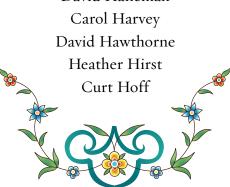
Lindsey Dunn

Aaron Emmons

James Evans

Maggie Haag

David Haneman





Stacey Kerno

Lisa Ketcham

The Meadows

The Meadows Too

The Melmark Facilities Team

The Melmark Players

The Melmark School

Susan Mitchell

Adam Nebhut

Shawn Quigley

Aline Reele

Mamie Richiutti

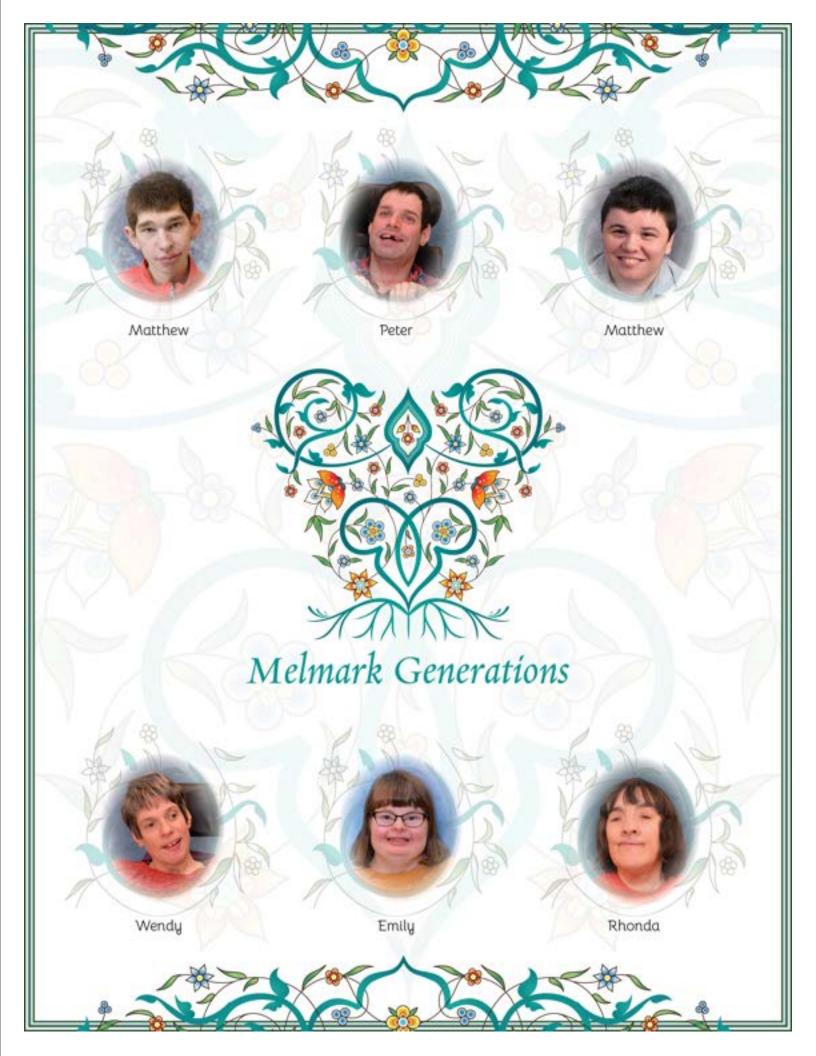
Lauren Robinson

The Sussman Family

Kelly Trucksess

Paul Waga







The Melmark Good Veighbor Award

Award Recipient - Simkiss & Block

The Melmark Good Neighbor Award recognizes those organizations that are champions for mission-centered work that aligns with Melmark's focus on providing the very best programs for the individuals we serve, every day. These organizations inspire us through their leadership, attention to excellence, generosity, and commitment. A Good Neighbor is an organization that may embrace a very different type of work and expertise but puts mission first in everything it does.



Simkiss & Block has been a valued partner to Melmark since 2010. Like Melmark, Simkiss & Block was founded in the mid-1960's, and its expertise, focus on understanding the fundamentals of client businesses and true risks at hand, and commitment to client relationships have fueled the firm's growth into a global, full-service insurance brokerage and risk management consultant. Simkiss & Block has not only made that same commitment to Melmark, but the firm has gone above and beyond through its outstanding philanthropic

support, now \$180,000 and counting; the personal engagement of its executive team; the volunteerism of its senior staff at Melmark special events, like our Hubert J.P. Schoemaker Classic and this evening's *Dream Maker's Ball*; and the personal advocacy and generous support from the same. We are immensely grateful for the company's positive corporate citizenship and commitment to Melmark and honored this evening to present Simkiss & Block with The Melmark Good Neighbor Award.



Award Recipient - State Senator Carolyn T. Comitta

The Melmark Humanitarian Award honors those individuals who, through their selfless acts of compassion, understanding, and public service, share Melmark's mission and commitment to improve the lives of all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism. The award recognizes advocates in our society who actively promote and support the unique abilities of each citizen and the inherent dignity, respect, and equality that is to be afforded to all.



State Senator Carolyn
T. Comitta began her
professional career as a
public-school teacher
and curriculum advisor,
developing special and
gifted education programs
for the Octorara Area
School District. She was
first elected to public

office on West Chester Borough Council, where Senator Comitta served from 2006 to 2010. She then became the first woman and first bipartisan-elected mayor of West Chester. Starting in 2016, Senator Comitta served two

terms as State Representative for the 156th Legislative District, and because of her effective leadership, was elected in 2020 to serve as State Senator for Pennsylvania's 19th District, representing the people of Chester County. In 2023, Senator Comitta, a long-time advocate for Pennsylvanians with disabilities, spent a day visiting Melmark with other state officials, learning more about the specific challenges faced by the 55,000 Pennsylvanians with intellectual disabilities and autism and their families. In gratitude for her personal support of Melmark's mission, we are honored to present to Senator Comitta with The Melmark Humanitarian Award.

The Melmark Lifetime Achievement Award

Award Recipient - Frank L. Bird, M.Ed., LABA, BCBA, CDE®

The Melmark Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual who has dedicated their career to supporting Melmark's mission and embodies the organization's core commitments. The award recognizes the individual for their sustained contributions and accomplishments. It is presented with gratitude for outstanding service, leadership, and advancement of the behavioral analysis field, the impact of which will be felt for generations to come.



Melmark expresses its sincere appreciation to Frank L. Bird for his 25 years of dedicated service to Melmark. Now serving as Executive Vice President of Clinical Services, Bird has worked

at Melmark since June 1998, and during that time has influenced advancements in strategic planning, curriculum and instruction, staff development, research, publications, and presentations. A co-founder of Melmark New England with Rita M. Gardner, Peter Troy, and Helena Maguire, Bird's expertise has benefited every child and adult Melmark serves in its divisions in Pennsylvania, New England, and the Carolinas. This includes his work in the development of the EnvisionSMART™ Institute, Melmark's proprietary educational, professional

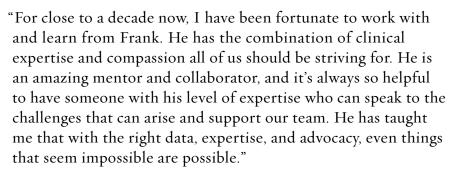
development, and clinical management software and practitioner guidebooks. As an example of the generational impact of Bird's work, in 1986, Bird's research was published in a landmark article on "Functional Communication Training." Work over the last six years with the Pennsylvania Rehabilitative Services Team, including Senior Director Heather Hirst and Speech Pathologist Lindsay Bly, has resulted in another landmark move in communications. The adult speech therapy team has provided augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) methods for 45 adult clients ranging in age from 27 through 57, with the oldest user receiving their very first device at age 56. Many of these individuals did not have functional ways to express their wants and needs; however, with the introduction of speech services and AAC, autonomy and self-expression increased across all age groups. It is with deepest gratitude for his 25+ year commitment to every individual we serve that we present The Melmark Lifetime Achievement Award to Frank L. Bird.

Words of Appreciation



"Frank's work has effected generations of individuals and families, and his long-term contributions to the field are highly valued; they have helped shape the treatment and care of individuals with high needs."

– Shawn P. Quigley, PhD, BCBA-D, CDE®, Chief Operating Officer, Melmark



– Maggie Haag, M.Ed., BCBA, LSW, CDE®, Executive Director, Melmark Pennsylvania

"Frank has built a foundation of excellence and has raised the bar for the next generation of clinicians."

 Heather Hirst, PT, DPT, Senior Director of Rehabilitation Services, Melmark Pennsylvania

"As clinicians, data and details drive us. What stands out about Frank is that he is a well-respected clinician in the field, and he never loses sight of our core commitment of compassionate care, putting the individuals we serve and their families first."

 Paul J. Waga, MPP, M.Ed., BCBA, Senior Director of Adult Services, Melmark Pennsylvania

"Frank's dedication to those we serve and our employees motivates me to want to be a better leader for this organization."

– Jennifer Ruane, MS, BCBA, LPC, CDE®, Director of Professional Development and Clinical Training, Melmark Pennsylvania













Thank you to the mission-first staff at Melmark for helping Caroline grow into the happy young woman she is today.

Nothing is IMPOSSIBLE.



The word itself says 'I'M POSSIBLE!'

~ Audrey Hepburn ~



The Leibowitz Family

Thank you to those who serve on our Board of Directors

Your tireless commitment, significant contributions, and steadfast advocacy of those we serve have allowed us to continue being mission first for every individual, every day.



Rita M. Gardner, M.P.H., LABA, BCBA, CDE* President and CEO Melmark Services, Melmark, Inc., Melmark New England, Inc.



Lawrence C. Cancro Senior Vice President, Boston Red Sox Chair, Melmark Services, Melmark, Inc., Melmark New England, Inc.



Maureen McMahon, M.D. Physician, Merck Vice Chair, Melmark Services, Melmark, Inc., Melmark New England, Inc.



Peter Troy, M.B.A.

Retired VP of Business Operations, Melmark
Finance Chair, Melmark Services, Melmark Inc.,
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Kimberly Thurmond Bowdre, DPM, CWS Podiatrist Member, Melmark, Inc.



H. Robert Marcus Retired, Investment Monager Member Emeritus, Melmark, Inc.

Things that Rhonda loves to do!



Rhonda loves exploring!



Rhonda loves outings!







Rhonda loves being creative!



Rhonda loves greeting buses!



Rhonda loves shopping!

To the entire Melmark staff:

Thank you for looking out for the well being of Rhonda and to all the residents at Melmark.

Mary and Ron Owen

SAVE THE DATE

September 23, 2024







Turner Hill Golf Club 251 Topsfield Rd Ipswich, MA 01938

For sponsorship and registration, visit: www.melmark.org/fore

September 30, 2024



Hubert J.P. Schoemaker Classic

Celebrating 19 Years of Benefiting Melmark



Philadelphia Cricket Club

St. Martins Clubhouse 415 W. Willow Grove Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19118

For sponsorship and registration, visit: www.schoemakerclassic.com

October 23, 2024





Golf Plantation

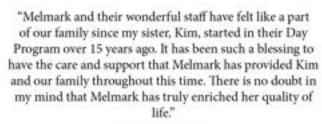
7500 Olde Sycamore Dr, Charlotte, NC 28227

For sponsorship and registration, visit: www.melmark.org/mcs-golf2024/



"My sister Kim has been with Melmark since 2008 and moved to full residence in 2016. I used to pick her up when she was in Day program and remember how friendly each staff member was and that they always had a smile on their face. There was always such positive energy in the room, and it was apparent that my sister was receiving the best care possible. I am so grateful for the love and care Melmark has provided to my sister all these years."

~Nick Dolente~



~Dan Dolente~

"Kimmie has been the light of every room she has ever been in. Her smile is contagious, and she loves to be around people who love her. Melmark has been such an amazing experience for Kimmie as it gives her a home away from home. I'm just so happy that she was able to find a place to smile with for the past 15 years. Thank you so much."

~Max Dolente~



"Kimmie has been and will always be the joy of our lives. The example she sets of a real, pure, and innocent love has always been extraordinary. We are forever grateful for the unconditional love and care she receives from our "extended" Melmark family, and are so grateful for all of you at the Dream Maker's Ball. You are enhancing and supporting that joy that Kimmie will continue to give and will undoubtedly receive in the years ahead."

~Marley Dolente~



"About 10 years ago, Marley and I were faced with the decision to transition Kimmie into a Melmark home, as a spot had opened for her. We were not ready to let her go from our home, but we knew we would need help in the very near future. We wondered how Melmark's staff would know how to care for her and if she would be OK. We had nothing to worry about. Melmark has provided Kim not only with professional and highly skilled care but more importantly, with loving care. As a family, we can't thank Melmark enough."

~Mike Dolente~

Spending any time in Ocean City, NJ this summer?

Please be sure to stop by our beach town business



Located in Staintons 810 Asbury Ave., Ocean City, NJ.

We will have everything you need for a day, weekend or extended family vacation!

SUMMER FUN ALL YEAR LONG!

See you at the shore! ~ Marley Dolente



We will be forever grateful to the leadership of Melmark across all divisions for raising the quality of care for the individuals we serve as well as our beloved "Nate the Great."

Rita M. Gardner

President and CEO,

Melmark

Frank L. Bird

Executive Vice President of
Clinical Services, Melmark













Congratulations to Melmark Pennsylvania on a successful Dream Maker's Ball!

Your colleagues at Melmark New England



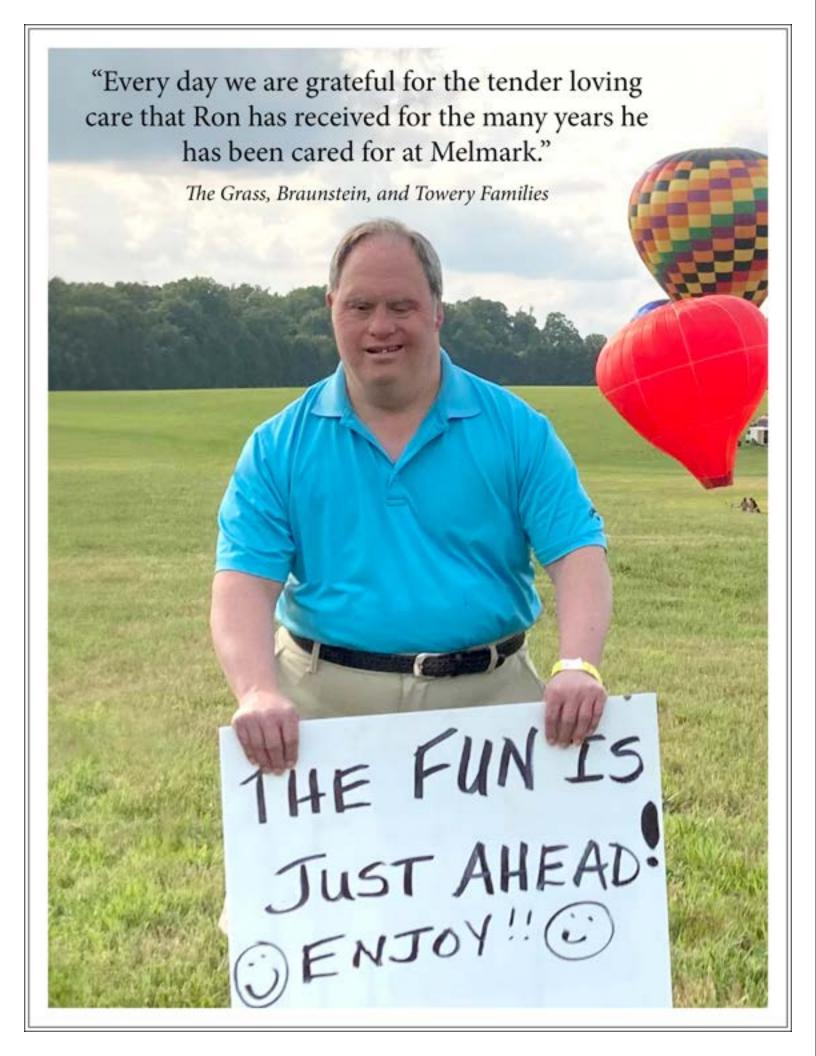




Melmark 📭

New England

Mission First. Every Individual, Every Day. ®









The Melmark Players theatre group is an adult skill-building program for individuals who enjoy acting and musical theatre. The group preformed their first musical production in 1998 with the debut of "Grease." Since then, each of The Melmark Players' performances have enjoyed sold-out crowds, enthusiastic applause, and standing ovations.

"Creativity is contagious, pass it on." — Albert Einstein



Many thanks to the Melmark Students & Adults Who help pick, produce, and package our delicious apple cider & apple butter.

Hire someone with different abilities and support businesses that do!

www.ohanafarm.com

Member, Neurodiversity Employment Network of Philadelphia & the national Care Farm Network Growing neurodiverse opportunities in farming



Established in 1976, The Meadows Program at Melmark is a day program for adults with autism and intellectual disabilities. The Meadows and now The Meadows Too combine skill-building employment activities and creative arts, which help to provide meaningful work for adults.

"Creativity is the way I share my soul with the world." — Brené Brown

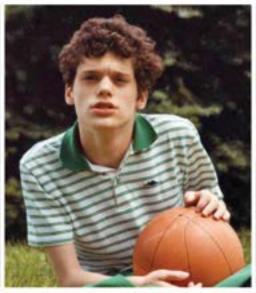






The family of Tony Phillips is forever grateful to Melmark









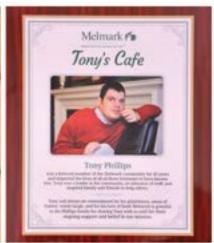






WELCOME Tony's Cafe

EST. 2023 Melmark Pennsylvania









WHAT'S NEW AT MELMARK PENNSYLVANIA



The Melmark School

The Melmark School is bright and inviting, with natural light flooding into each of its 20 classrooms, and it is fully accessible to accommodate children with physical disabilities and mobility issues. It was purposefully designed with a clinical office with observation windows between every two classrooms, allowing a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) to provide immediate feedback to staff.



Tony's Café Student Cafeteria

Named Tony's Café in memory of Tony Phillips, long-time Melmark resident, the student cafeteria helps students enhance social skills development and meal-time skills and generalize those same skills at home or in public.



Staff Eatery

A central gathering point for Melmark's professional staff, the Eatery serves healthy meals at a significantly reduced cost, and 20 Melmark residents regularly use their skills in partnership with our food service provider, Whitsons Culinary Group.



Vocational Center and School Store

The Vocational Center and School Store were designed to provide students and adults with the opportunity to learn basic life skills as well as learn and hone their vocational training skills.



Outdoor Pool

The outdoor pool is a site for physical therapy, health and wellness activities, and recreation for children and adults with disabilities. It also enables Melmark to actively participate in the Special Olympics.



Outdoor Playground

The fully accessible playground was purposefully designed with equipment and space to improve motor skills, build muscle strength, aid in brain development, enhance communication skills, and have outdoor fun.



Activities Center

*Anticipated completion date: May 2024



With recommendations from our Rehabilitative Services and Healthcare teams, the Activities Center is being purposefully

designed to help individuals make progress on their specific physical health goals, such as healthy weight management, cardiovascular endurance, muscle strength, and flexibility.

Expanded Healthcare Center *Anticipated completion date: May 2024



The hub of Melmark's medical expertise and services, the expanded Healthcare Center will include an additional

exam room/waiting area; dedicated spaces for the nursing manager, the medical director, and specialty physicians, including podiatry and ophthalmology; and enhanced patient privacy and comfort—all in support of a continuity of care that will continue to lead best outcomes.

Residential Treatment Facility @ Marcus House

With the renovation of the Marcus House, Melmark has expanded to three Residential Treatment Facilities (RTF). The purpose of RTFs is to help each child attain the highest level of growth and independence, facilitating reunification with family, by decreasing challenging behaviors. Students attend the Melmark School while also living in an on-campus home where they are easily able to access resources, services, and community-based social and recreational outings.



MELMARK PENNSYLVANIA REACH & IMPACT



Adult Residential Program

The Adult Residential Program incorporates 25 on-campus and community homes where residents benefit from a year-round skill-building and treatment model that is applied to all aspects of an individual's daily life. Our comprehensive resources support a wide range of needs, including medically complex adults who require 24-hour nursing availability, and individuals who need significant to moderate support for daily living and behavioral needs. Melmark also regularly invests in home safety and accessibility renovations to enable adults to age in place.



Adult Day Program

Adult Day Programs are based in the Anne and Brutus Kenan Adult Day Center. Over 170 participants include both day- and residential program adults, with individual goals that focus on skill building along with a variety of activities that promote individual achievement for all abilities. Programs include the Christopher Maurer Adult Community Program as well as The Melmark Players, The Meadows, and The Meadows Too.





Rehabilitative Services

Melmark's Rehabilitative Services include physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy as well as ancillary aquatics in new state-of-the-art facilities. Rehab professionals are integral members of the interdisciplinary teams providing highly skilled evaluations, recommendations, and training to promote independence and quality of life at all ages. A person-centered approach is utilized to target individualized goals and objectives across a person's lifespan.



Professional Development

One of Melmark's core values is a highly-skilled workforce. The organization has invested more than \$2.5M since 2015 in establishing a robust professional development department. Through this department, all new hires receive 80 hours of onboarding and training; direct support professionals receive 60 hours of training above state requirements and state reimbursements. The professional development team then provides ongoing, year-over-year training for all staff members; educational and career advancement opportunities; and access to outside experts in the disabilities field.



Community Experiences

Regular community experiences are an important part of skill-building, socialization, and enjoyment for all medically able children and adults. Every individual has goals related to their participation, which could include vocational volunteerism at organizations like Meals on Wheels or the Schuylkill Nature Center; ordering and handling money in visits to coffee shops or restaurants; or longer outings to Longwood Gardens or the Linc. Melmark also holds numerous on-campus skill-building social activities for day and residential program children and adults.





With sincere thanks to the entire Melmark Team for their dedication and commitment to excellence, Every Day,

Every Week,

Every Month,

Every Year.

-The Mendelow Family -

2023 Research and Publications

Pennsylvania, New England and the Carolinas



- -Bly, L., McBeth, M., Olagunju, I., Hirst, H., Block, D., Bird, F., & Luiselli, J. K. (2023). Single-case evaluation of oral feeding intervention and gastrostomy tube fading in adults with intellectual and multiple disabilities. *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability*, June 6, 2023.
- -Elwood, G., Voltz, A., Howell, S., Bly, L., Hirst, H., & Luiselli, J. K. (2023). Assessment of data recording practices among direct service providers of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities: Implications for training and supervision. Advonces in Neurodevelopmental Disorders, September 20, 2023.
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Melmark is continually expanding and raising the quality of service delivery systems in internal program delivery and throughout the country by disseminating and replicating the Melmark Model of Program Development and Clinical Treatment. Through an advanced program called EnvisionSMAR™, Melmark showcases professional practitioner manuals, proprietary software and a four-book practitioner series. Combined, this program provides an all-encompassing array of well-researched, documented tools to enable other providers to utilize the Melmark Model for Program Development.

This will elevate the standard of services, while addressing every aspect of the critical educational, clinical and administrative functions that are vital to evidence-based, special education programs.











With Immense Gratitude to the Anne and Brutus Kenan Fund



Melmark continues to feel the strength and commitment of the Anne and Brutus Kenan Fund which will keep Melmark at the forefront of providing services to individuals in Pennsylvania and beyond for generations to come.







It is an honor to work together as we put the **mission first** for every individual, every day.

Your colleagues at Melmark Carolinas















Carolinas

Mission First. Every Individual, Every Day. 8



Thanks to everyone at Melmark who helps Brutus and his friends continue to grow each and every day.

~ Clay and Garrett Kirk ~



Anne and Brutus Kenan's family and friends are grateful for the continued blessings, happiness and care that Melmark provides for them and so many others!



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Congratulations to Melmark

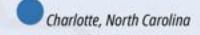
On its innovative planned adult community pilot project, which will be located in Tewksbury, Massachusetts and will feature an expanded adult day center, residential homes, recreational space, and more.





We are excited to see this new project take shape and the impact it will have for generations to come!

Dr. Maureen McMahon and Family



MELMARK NEW ENGLAND: Celebrating 25 Years of Mission First Moments



Melmark New England Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Last year, hundreds of guests gathered on the grounds of the Andover day school campus to pay tribute to MNE founders Rita M. Gardner, Frank L. Bird, Helena Maguire, and Peter Troy, as well as 25 years of mission first moments for Melmark New England. Over \$500,000 was raised in support of Melmark New England's endowment fund which is focused on bridging the funding gap for adult day services as well as to fulfill future strategic initiatives.



EnvisionSMART[™] Institute's 3rd Practitioner Guidebook is Published



Melmark is continually expanding and raising the quality of service-delivery systems in internal program delivery and throughout the country by disseminating and replicating the Melmark Model of Program

Development and Clinical Treatment. Through an advanced program called EnvisionSMART™, Melmark showcases professional practitioner manuals, proprietary software and a four-book practitioner series. The third book in the series, focused on educational practices in human services organizations, was published in the fall of 2023.

Stoughton Day School Celebrates 1st Anniversary in May 2024

Melmark New England opened a second approved private special education day school in Stoughton, Massachusetts in May 2023 to serve additional students from Boston's South Shore and surrounding areas.





Residential Program Continues Expansion



Melmark's seventh adult residence, Spring Park, opened in Dracut, Massachusetts in May 2023. Five individuals now reside in a beautiful home in a bustling part of downtown Dracut.

Successful 18th Annual fore Melmark New England Golf Tournament

Melmark New England hosted its annual golf tournament on September 27th, 2023 at Turner Hill in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Golfers, sponsors, donors, and guests helped Melmark raise nearly \$220,000 in support of programs and services.



Melmark VEARS New England

Melmark New England Community Celebrations Continue

Melmark's community is stronger and more vibrant than ever with events throughout the year that bring students, individuals, families, and staff together, including family BBQs, the Harvest Dance, and Holiday Shows.



Melmark President and CEO Receives Top 100 Women Led Business Honor

Melmark President and CEO, Rita M. Gardner, was named among The Women's Edge's list of the Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts for 2023. This is the sixth consecutive year Gardner and Melmark made the list created by The Women's Edge and published annually in the Women & Power issue of the Globe Magazine. The list includes 100 women power players from across the state of Massachusetts who generated more than \$84 billion in total revenue in 2022, demonstrating that women are key drivers of the state's economy.



MELMARK CAROLINAS: Celebrating 5 Years of Mission First Moments



Melmark Carolinas Celebrates 5 Years

In 2018, Melmark expanded its footprint to open Melmark Carolinas, a children's day school, in Charlotte, North Carolina. This expansion was in direct response to the significant need in that region, and we are excited to share that 37 students have begun their Melmark journey. Over the past five years, interest in the Melmark Model in North Carolina and South Carolina has continued to grow.



State-of-the-Art Day School Facility Opens

In August 2023, Melmark Carolinas moved into a new, intentionally designed school building that will allow Melmark to serve 72 students from the region, marking groundbreaking growth for our service in this region.





A Year of Firsts

The Melmark Carolinas day school held its first family cookout and open house last year bringing together students, families, and staff to celebrate and commemorate milestone moments.



fore Melmark Carolinas Annual Golf Outing Grows

The 3rd annual golf tournament hosted over 60 golfers, doubling previous outings. Golfers, sponsors, and Melmark families and friends raised nearly \$30,000 in support of Melmark's mission first services.

Melmark in the News

WCNC Charlotte reporter Nate Morabito first visited Melmark Carolinas in August 2023. His visit and interviews were precipitated by a news story that aired on WCNC's "Seeking Solutions" news segment, focused on the status of Special Education schools in NC. Morabito visited again when news broke that North Carolina leads the nation in suspending students with disabilities. In the follow-up report, Morabito highlighted Melmark Carolinas' commitment to provide state-of-the-art school facilities that cater to the needs of children with disabilities. His reports serve as powerful reminders of the work that still needs to be done to ensure that education is equitable and accessible for all students.



To all the Melmark staff who have inspired, taught, played with, laughed and cried with our incredible daughter, we can't even begin to express our love and deep appreciation for the love, dedication and support you provide Kat.

- You are our family, truly. The McEntees -



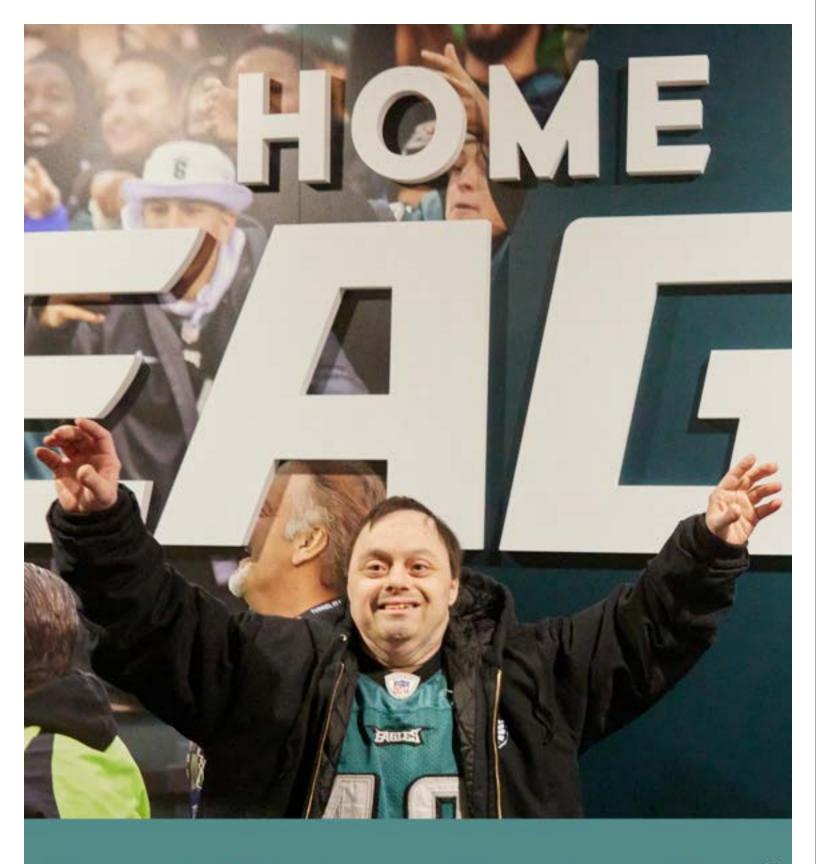
Celebrating Caroline's 25th Year at Melmark!

In grateful appreciation for all the wonderful care at Melmark, with a special thank you to the Direct Service Professionals!

Dr. Maureen McMahon and Family

Thanks to Melmark for providing enriching community activities for adults!





Thanks to Melmark and all our love to Doug!

—Joy, Len, and Jodi Sussman—



Melmark Generations By Heather Hirst, PT, DPT Senior Director of Rehabilitative Services and

By Heather Hirst, PT, DPT Senior Director of Rehabilitative Services and Lindsay Bly, M.S., CCC-SLP Lead Speech Language Pathologist





The programs and services offered at Melmark exemplify that learning and growth are achievable across a lifespan for individuals with disabilities.

The Rehabilitative Services Team—comprised of occupational, physical, and speech therapists—works diligently to provide learning opportunities that support independence and self-advocacy across all domains in both the adult and student programs. Melmark hired its first adult services speech therapist in 2018, and it revolutionized diet safety across the campus and introduced robust communications options for non-speaking adult clients.

Over these last six years, the adult speech therapy team has provided augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) methods for 45 adult clients, including securing insurance funding for 21 high-tech speech generating devices (e.g. iPads, Eyegaze, etc.). Adults using these technologies range in age from 27 to 57, with the oldest user receiving their very first device at age 56. Many of these individuals did not have functional ways to express their wants and needs; however, with the introduction of speech services and AAC, autonomy and self-expression increased across all age groups. This successful expansion of communication services highlights the fact that learning and developing new skills are possible at any age.

Individuals with disabilities deserve the opportunity to continue learning throughout their lives, and the services provided by Melmark ensure that these opportunities are accessible now and for generations to come.

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IT'S TITO'S VODKA, BUT IT'S FOR YOUSE GUYS TOO.



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Celebrating Generations of Mission First Moments





1966

Paul and Mildred "Miggy" Krentel sell family home and purchase 35-room mansion in Berwyn, PA, establishing Melmark as "The Home that Love Built."



1968

Melmark obtains private school licensing—51 children participate in Melmark's programs featuring education classes, intensive staffing and nursing care.



1970-1980

Gymnasium and pool added, along with three cottages and several freestanding homes to accommodate growing residential population.



1996

After Paul and Miggy retire, Joanne Gillis-Donovan, Ph.D. becomes President and CEO, diversifying programs and opening community homes for adults.



2015

Dr. Donovan announces her retirement. Rita M. Gardner, M.P.H., LABA, BCBA, CDE®, selected as President and CEO.





Celebrating Generations of Mission First Moments





2016

Celebrating 50 years, Melmark serves more than 500 children and adults with a wide range of intellectual disabilities from across the U.S. and employs nearly 1,000 people.



2021

Melmark Pennsylvania receives a \$21.5M endowment gift from the Anne and Brutus Kenan Fund.



2022

Melmark Pennsylvania's new school, professional training center, expanded rehabilitation spaces, and outdoor pool and playground are open.



2023

Tony's Café student cafeteria completed.



2025-2026

Throughout 2025–2026, Melmark will celebrate its 60th anniversary of operations in Pennsylvania.

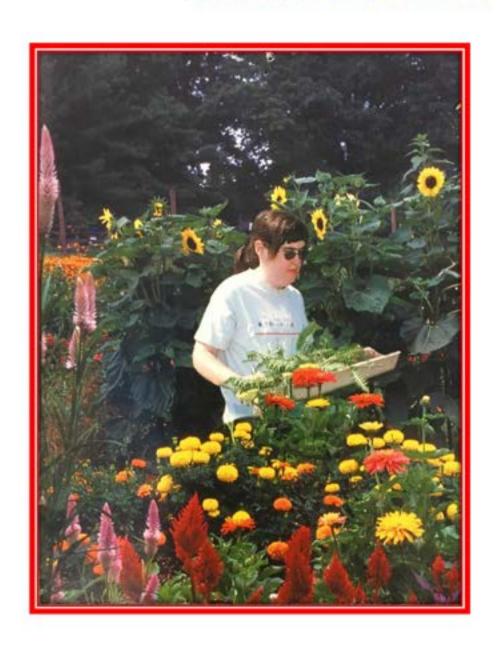




To All the "Dream Makery" at Melmark ...

There are no words to sufficiently express our heartfelt gratitude for the tender loving care that you have given to our daughter, Lori. For us, as parents, you have turned our tears to laughter and our fears to wonder – for that and so much more, we say "thank you" to all those at Melmark who have contributed to its strength and breathed life into our children.

With much love, Vicki and Fred Modell



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With deepest appreciation, In Loving Memory of Christopher Patrick Maurer





- The Maurer Family-



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With gratitude for the many dreams made true for David.

Have a successful Dream Maker's Ball!

~ Susan and Brian Korff ~



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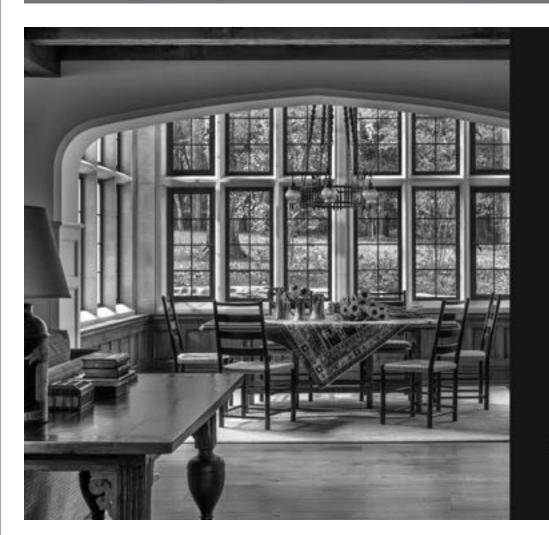
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Katie Trainor during her earliest years at Melmark



Thank you for the compassionate care to our individuals!

~ Bob and Kathy Trainor ~







We thank our Melmark Family for all the love and care Maddie receives every day.

We are so grateful!

~ Love, The Duffey Family ~



"Being heard is so close to being loved that for the average person, they are almost indistinguishable."

~ David Ausberger ~





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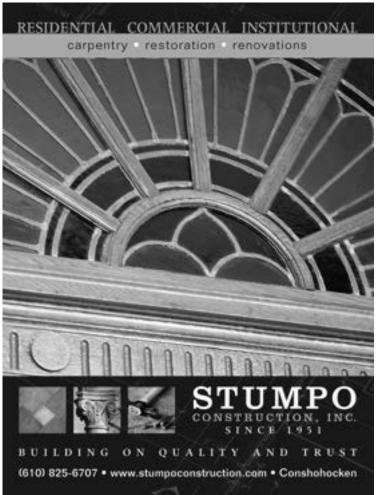
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With grateful hearts, we would like to thank Melmark for helping our son Andy find happiness in his journey.

> Love, the Potts Family, Karen, Tom, Ben and Mae Rose

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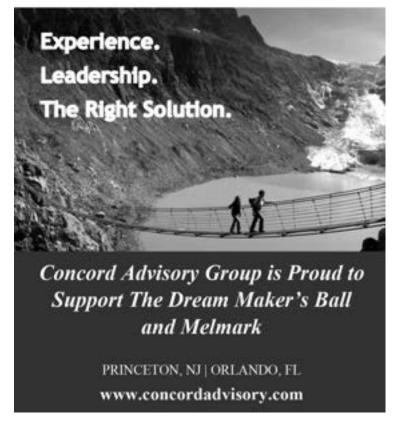
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