

Long Valley residents named to positions with The Arc

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WASHINGTON TWP. – Two Long Valley residents were elected to positions with The Arc/Morris Chapter at the annual meeting and volunteer recognition event held Wednesday, May 20, at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morris Township.

Tom Horn of Long Valley was elected secretary and Walter Bender of Long Valley was re-elected to the board.

More than 100 guests were on hand to recognize outstanding service to people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities.

The event honored nine individuals and organizations for their work in support of the non-profit organization, whose mission is the care, support and advancement of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Award winners included Gary Genovas of Morris Township with the Bill Sackter Citizenship Award; Mark Stephenson, assistant executive director at Employment Horizons, Inc. was named the Professional of the Year; and the Community Living Education Project at Rutgers University won the Media Excellence Award. New Jersey Special Olympics Area 3 Committee was also recognized with the Distinguished Community Service Award.

Geoff McGrane of Morris Township received the Best Friend Award, while the Waradzyn family of Boonton won the Family/ Guardian Award. Jennifer Yeager received the Teacher of the Year Award and Betty Lunn was given the 2015 Volunteer of the Year Award. The Rev. Wendy Abrahamson of Madison was given the organization's highest honor for lifetime achievement, the Distinguished Service Award.

Officers were elected prior to the awards ceremony, including Gwendolyn Utberg of Randolph was elected as president, Katherine Cascioli of Towaco as first vice president, Barry Levine of Denville as second vice president, Wendy Abrahamson of Madison as treasurer and Horn of Long Valley as secretary. James Gallagher of Rockaway Township will serve as immediate past president of the organization. Two directors were re-elected to the board, including Bender of Long Valley and Larry McEntee of Mount Olive.

The not-for-profit agency has been serving people with special needs and their families for over 60 years. Services include residential and day programs for adults; therapeutic recreation for all ages; and support and respite for families.

For more information call (973) 326-9750 extension 211 or visit www.arcmorris.org.