

# *OSCIL'S Signs of Independence*

Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL)

Summer 2016

## OSCIL's 28th Annual Meeting and Open House

OSCIL held its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on April 26th which included an Open House at our new satellite location at 175 Main Street in Pawtucket known as "OSCIL North." Nearly 100 guests attended, including the Honorable Mayors Don Grebien of Pawtucket and Scott Avedisian of Warwick as well as representatives from Congressman Langevin's and Senator Whitehouse's offices. The Annual Meeting was held in the theater of the Blackstone Valley's Visitors' Center which is located in the same building as our new offices.

The program included recognition of OSCIL Board President, Henry Tarlian who was recognized for his 20+ years of dedicated service to OSCIL. As a surprise to Henry, his family were in attendance to share in his special day. Mayor Avedisian, a long-time friend and colleague of Henry's, had the honor of introducing him and presenting him with an engraved mantel clock.



L-R: L. Ricci, J. May, H. Tarlian, D. Grebien, J. Bateman

The Catherine T. Murray Scholarships for 2016 were awarded during the program to three very deserving students by our own Michelle Machado. Michelle was a Murray Scholarship recipient herself in 2005. This year's recipients were Tyler Perry of Cumberland, Emerson Torem of Warwick and Tia Browning of Narragansett (Tia was unable to attend).

After the meeting, guests toured our new offices and enjoyed a catered luncheon which was sponsored by Coastway Community Bank. Please visit our website at [oscil.org](http://oscil.org) to see additional photos taken on this special day!

## Board of Directors

President: Henry Tarlian

Vice-President: Jose Lobaton

Treasurer: James Bateman

Secretary: Stephanie Clang

### Members at Large

Gerry LeFebvre

Lydia LeFebvre

Janet Lobaton

Judy May

Anne McDonald

Susan Shapiro

Douglas Wood

Janice Wray

---

## OSCIL Staff

Executive Director: Lorna Ricci

Linda Bradley: Home Access Coordinator

Tim Flynn: IL Coordinator/PCA Program

Helen Iasimone, Program Director

Gloria Jacques: Finance Assistant

Anna Liebenow, Receptionist-OSCIL North

Michelle Machado: IL Coordinator

Carol McKenna: Media/Communications Mgr.

Margaret Molloy: IL Coord./Deaf Services

Brian Nichols: Home Access Assistant

Corrine O'Donnell: Info & Referral

Beth Pinkham: Site Manager

Lynne Powers: Office Manager

Melissa Rosenberg: IL Coordinator

Mireille Sayaf: Finance Director

Heather Schey: Receptionist

Gloria Stuart: Equipment Loan Coordinator

Leslie Tracy: IL Coordinator

Cheryl Walason: IL Coord./Housing & Transition

## **NEW "OSCIL Advocacy Group"**

OSCIL has created a new advocacy group to evaluate and address legislative, regulatory and community issues that impact the lives of Rhode Islanders with disabilities. For more information or to participate, email Tim Flynn at [tim.flynn@oscil.org](mailto:tim.flynn@oscil.org) or call him at 738-1013.

## Staff Updates

OSCIL is happy to welcome back Anna Liebenow. Anna will be our part-time receptionist at our OSCIL North location in Pawtucket. Glad to have you back, Anna!

## Sign Up For OSCIL Email List

OSCIL has established a new email list to keep our consumers, friends and the community informed of upcoming news and events. If you would like to be included on this list, please visit our website at [www.oscil.org](http://www.oscil.org) and click on the "*Email Sign-up*" link and enter your name and email address and click "Subscribe".

## OSCIL on Facebook

Did you know that OSCIL has a Facebook page? You can find our page by searching for "OSCIL" in the Facebook search bar. Please "like" our page and share with anyone you feel may be interested.

## Upcoming OSCIL Lunch & Learn Workshop

Wednesday, July 27 ~ 12-2 pm

A representative from The Kent County YMCA will be here to discuss various ways the "Y" can be of benefit to you in reaching your independent living goals related to increased healthy living and socialization/recreational activities.

Location: OSCIL – 1944 Warwick Ave in Warwick. Please call 738-1013 to register. Pizza will be served (at no cost).

A sign language interpreter & CART (sponsored by Hamilton Relay) are secured for all of our Lunch & Learn workshops.

United Way's 211 Outreach RV will also be on site to answer questions about other resources and services available in Rhode Island.

*Signs of Independence* is made possible by the generosity of our advertisers. OSCIL wishes to thank Phoenix Property Management, Inc for sponsoring this edition of our newsletter. If you would like to sponsor a future edition, please email Carol McKenna at [cmckenna@oscil.org](mailto:cmckenna@oscil.org)

At our May 25th Lunch and Learn, OSCIL had representatives from *Buttonhole Golf* and *Wheelchair Tennis* to speak about opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in recreational activities.

To learn more about their programs, their contact information is listed below:

### Thomas Dodd-Wheelchair Tennis

Wheelchair Tennis is one of the fastest growing wheelchair sports. Clinics are geared towards people with mobility disabilities.

When: Every Monday night, June 6 -  
October 24

Place: Dianne B. Snyder Tennis Complex -  
400 Old County Rd. Westport, MA

Time: 4:30-8:30

Cost: Free

Attend all or just one!

Contact: Thomas at 523-9864 or  
[THOMASD10@Aol.com](mailto:THOMASD10@Aol.com)

### Button Hole Golf

A completely accessible course for people with disabilities, whether you are a beginner or a pro, including nine holes and a driving range.

Contact: Don Wright at 421-1664 Ext. 101 or at [dwright@buttonhole.org](mailto:dwright@buttonhole.org).

## ADA Update

The Department of Justice has launched a new Accessible Technology section for ADA.gov to further assist covered entities and people with disabilities to understand how the ADA applies to certain technologies, such as web sites, point-of-sale electronic book readers, on-line courses, and point-of-sale devices. To find out more about the ADA, visit ADA.gov or call their toll-free ADA information line at 1-800-514-0301 or 1-800-514-0383 (TTY).

## Department of Human Services On-Line Eligibility System

In July, Rhode Islander's will be able to apply for public benefits programs administered by DHS through an on-line application. Check their web site for more information at [www.eohhs.ri.gov](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov).

## YOGA

The Brain Injury Resource Center has YOGA classes the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Place: BIARI Resource Center  
107 Waterman Ave. East Prov.

Time: 5:30 pm

Cost: \$5.00 for members  
\$10.00 non-members

Contact: (401) 228-3319.

## R.I. Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

This program is part of a national partnership to help consumers make informed health care choices. SHIP volunteers can assist with Medicare, Medicare Part D, Supplemental Insurance and Advantage Plans. For a complete list of SHIP agencies, call 462-0510.

## Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

PACE provides an alternative to Nursing Home care. It is an all-inclusive program where all care is provided by a network of doctors, social workers and other professionals. They are also a licensed adult day service program. For more information call: 490-6566 or visit: [www.pace-ri.org](http://www.pace-ri.org).

## ASL (American Sign Language) Practice Group

Perspectives Corporation holds ASL practice on the last Wednesday of every month at Brewed Awakenings at 1316 Bald Hill Road in Warwick from 7-8pm. Anyone is welcome to join no matter your skill level. Next Meeting Dates are: 7/27, 8/31, 9/28.

## Bridgemark Addiction Recovery Services

“Bridgemark is a nonprofit addiction treatment facility that provides a safe & stable environment to learn and maintain a sober, drug and alcohol-free lifestyle with a sense of responsibility and freedom from judgment.” They are located at 2020 Elmwood Avenue in Warwick, RI. For more information contact them at 401-781-2700 or by Video Phone at 1-866-730-9573.

## iBill Currency Reader

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), along with The National Library Service (NLS) provides currency-reader devices, free of charge, to individuals who are blind, visually impaired or Deaf-blind. It is a compact device that announces a notes value by voice, pattern of tones or pattern of vibrations. If you are already a member of the NLS, call 1-844-815-9388 to order your free iBill. Eligible individuals who are not yet a member and wish to receive free library services may call 1-888-657-7323.

## Goodwill Industries of RI

If you are in need of a computer and would like one custom built to your specific needs, call Chris at 861-2080 ext. 145. Goodwill’s Computer Works technicians are Microsoft registered refurbishers.

## Pharmacy Outreach Program at The University of Rhode Island

The Pharmacy Outreach Program at URI is a great resource for information on how to access assistance for high priced prescription medication. Via their web site [www.uri.edu/pharmacy/outreach](http://www.uri.edu/pharmacy/outreach) you can search for various resources or you may call 1-800-215-9001.

Resources include Community Saving Programs through local pharmacies, a Medication Assistance Resource List, practical ways to help you save money, an explanation of Medicare Part D, and many other programs that help with drug costs.

## The Inner Space Gallery

The Inner Space Outsider Art Gallery and Store showcases the works of local artists with disabilities and mental illness. The adjoining store sells their handcrafted items and the artists receive 80% of the sale. If you are interested in showcasing some of your work you can find them on Facebook or call 270-8871

Mention of any product, service, or event in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation by OSCIL.

**Amputee Support Groups**

Place: The Coro West Building  
 1 Hoppin St. Suite 1300, Providence  
 Contact: Sham Ganglani  
 When: 3rd Wed of each month; Time: 5pm  
 Email: [riamputeesupport@gmail.com](mailto:riamputeesupport@gmail.com)

Place: Kent Hospital-Outpatient Rehab.  
 351 S. County Trail Bldg. 2, Ste 200  
 Contact: 886-4650  
 When: 4th Wed of month Time: 4:30 pm

**Breast Cancer Support Group**

Place: Kent Hospital – Imaging Center  
 Entrance, 455 Tollgate Rd, Warwick  
 When: 2nd Thursday of each month  
 Time: 6:30-8:00pm

**Cardiology Support Group**

For individuals with implantable  
 cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs).  
 This group is also open to patient's  
 families.

To Register: Call Sue Bartos at  
 737-7000 ext. 31650

**Stroke Support Group**

Place: The Stroke Center, The  
 Trowbridge Bldg –Adjacent to Kent  
 Hospital—Rooms 102/103  
 Contact: 737-7010 ext. 35510  
 Time: 1:00-2:30pm  
 When: Last Wednesday of the month.

**PHOENIX PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC.**  
[www.phoenix-ri.com](http://www.phoenix-ri.com)

**Fully accessible apartments for persons with physical disabilities**

Elmhurst House, North Providence -- 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms  
 Independence House, Providence -- 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Riverview Terrace, Pawtucket -- 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Valerie Case Apts., Providence -- 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms  
 Villa Nia, Middletown -- 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms  
 West House, Middletown – 1 bedrooms (*Must be 62 or older*)

**Apartments for persons with developmental disabilities**

Belmont Commons, Pawtucket – 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Blackstone Valley Apts., Pawtucket – 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms  
 BV Arc Housing, Pawtucket --1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Cara Estates, Johnston – 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 New Life Estates, Cranston – 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Willow St. Supportive Housing, Providence -- 1 & 2 bedrooms  
 Westminster St. Supportive Housing, Providence – 1 bedrooms

**For information on these subsidized housing opportunities, call**

**401-739-0100.**

## Upcoming Community Events

### Public Forums Coming Week of July 25-29.

During this week state agencies and community-based organizations will conduct public forums across the state to identify the concerns of people with disabilities and their families. OSCIL will be sponsoring a forum on July 25 from 4 to 6pm at the Warwick Public Library.

Times and dates of the remaining forums will be announced in local newspapers. Call the Governor's Commission on Disabilities at 462-0100 (voice), 462-0101 (TTY) or visit the web site at [www.disabilities@ri.gov](mailto:www.disabilities@ri.gov) or check our website at [www.oscil.org](http://www.oscil.org).

## ***SAVE THE DATE!***

### RI Statewide Independent Living Conference

Thursday, September 15 — Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI

OSCIL will be holding an Independent Living Conference which will include a guest Keynote speaker as well as several workshops on various topics relating to Independent Living for people living with disability. There will also be an area for vendors to display their products and services. A seated luncheon is included for those who attend.

This conference is currently in the planning stages. Please check our website at [www.oscil.org](http://www.oscil.org) for more information and updates as they become available.

### 2016 Assistive Technology Conference of New England

November 17 & 18 - Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI

This conference is sponsored by TechACCESS. The conference features workshops and exhibitors offering product information and assistive technology demonstrations. For registration information call TechACCESS at 463-0202 or visit the web site at [www.techaccess-ri.org](http://www.techaccess-ri.org).

*"Things turn out for the best for people who make the best of the way things turn out." - John Wooden*



**Ocean State Center for Independent Living**  
1944 Warwick Ave, Warwick, RI 02889 &  
175 Main St, Pawtucket, RI 02860

---

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WARWICK, RI  
PERMIT NO. 644

Office: 738-1013 Voice  
244-7792 VP  
Toll Free: 1-866-857-1161  
Email: [info@oscil.org](mailto:info@oscil.org)  
Website: [www.oscil.org](http://www.oscil.org)

*Summer 2016  
Newsletter*

### **Return Service Requested**

---

*The Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan Program and Hamilton Relay are HEAR For You!*

The Rhode Island Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan Program (ATEL) provides demonstrations, training and long term loans of specialized telephone equipment to qualified individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, have a speech disability or have neuromuscular damage or disease, which hinder them from using a standard telephone. One of the products also available is The Freedom Alert two-way voice pendant. This device is free to qualified consumers and holds up to four contacts before dialing 911 or may call 911 directly in an emergency depending on your need. There are no monthly fees. For more information call 462-7857 Ext. 357, 222-1679 (TTY) or visit [www.atel.ri.gov](http://www.atel.ri.gov).

Hamilton Relay services include TTY, Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), Spanish-to-Spanish and CapTel. When you connect with Rhode Island Relay, a communication assistant will connect on the phone with you, and assist you with your call. To connect in RI, dial 7-1-1 or for TTY:1-800-745-5555, Voice: 1-800-745-6575, ASCII: 1-800-745-1570, Speech to-Speech: 1-866-355-9213, Spanish-to-Spanish: 1-866-355-9214. Visit [www.hamiltonrelay.com](http://www.hamiltonrelay.com) for other information. Both ATEL and Hamilton Relay demonstrate and review their services at most of OSCIL's Lunch & Learn Program. Join us or contact them to find out more about these two magnificent programs.