



Get ready for Hoodstock XIV on Saturday, October 7, 2017. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. with music beginning at 6 p.m. Event headliner, Roses n Rust hits the stage at 8 p.m. Hoodstock is a grass roots music festival with its roots based on the rock/folk music scene of the late '60s and early '70s mixed with contemporary music. Originally founded in 2004 as a neighborhood event before its popularity made all the Baltimore region its "hood," Hoodstock is now a major fundraiser to benefit Unified Community Connections and all they do to advance the independence of children and adults with disabilities.

Hoodstock is an event where guests "Just Say No to Black-Tie and Yes to Tie-Dye!" It is a casual, laidback, family friendly event where attendees enjoy live music along with good casual food, beer, and wine, raffles and a silent auction, all for a modest ticket price. Many of the bands that perform include band members who have a direct connection to the mission of Unified. Approximately 420 people attended last year raising more than \$81,000! Once again this year the event will be at the American Visionary Art Museum at 800 Key Highway, and the museum will be open to view exhibits. Dress casual or in your best hippie outfit--tie-dye, bell bottoms, and your peace necklace.

A highlight of the evening is always the presentation of the Samuel A. Tucker Memorial Can Do Award to an individual we support in order to recognize their ability, rather than their disability.

Early bird general admission: \$45
(available until midnight September 5)

Advance general admission: \$50

Door admission: \$55

Children age 6+ \$10, and kids under 5 are free

For tickets go to www.unified.org

Sponsorships are also available. Please go to www.unified.org to download a sponsor form. Email to lbussard@unified.org or fax to 410-771-3235. Sponsorships from \$10,000 to \$300 available. For more information call Lauren Bussard at 410-484-540, ext. 2461.



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WORKPLACE GIVING . . .

Did you know that if your workplace participates in the United Way Campaign, another federated appeal or has an in house program, you can designate your support for Unified Community Connections through payroll deduction?

Agency numbers for Unified Community Connections are:

- United Way of Central Maryland #24
- Combined Federal Campaign #70735
- Maryland Charities Campaign #52-0696384
- Combined Charities campaign #8024
- Frederick County/City #0522
- Frederick Private, Cecil County, Allegany County and other areas in Maryland #53

Unified Community Connections is a proud member of Community Health Charities of Maryland.

PROGRESS

A PUBLICATION OF UNIFIED COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

CONNECTING
PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES
TO LIFE'S
POSSIBILITIES

SUMMER 2017

12TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT BREAKS RECORD RAISING MORE THAN \$92,000

Unified Community Connections 12th Annual Golf Classic, presented by Dimensional Health Care Associates, was held on Friday, April 21, at the Elkridge Club in Baltimore, raising a record \$92,460 for Unified's programs and services that support children and adults with disabilities. Co-chaired by Jonathan Clark and Julie and Jeff Bainbridge, whose son Charlie attends the Delrey School, the event sold out with 104 golfers. This was the sixth year the tournament was held at the Elkridge Club.

We especially would like to thank all of our generous sponsors and golfers, whose support helped to make this tournament such a financial success. It was a wonderful day on the links for all.

Save the date for next year's tournament scheduled for Friday, April 20, 2018.



(l to r) Russ Causey, CEO of CMD Outsourcing Solutions, Inc.; Gary Applestein, Senior VP at JLL; and Rob Freedman, Senior VP at JLL.

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Event Co-Chairs present check to Unified Community Connections. (l to r) Jonathan Clark, Harris Media Group, Inc.; Julie Bainbridge, American College of Cardiology; Diane Coughlin, President & CEO of Unified Community Connections; Penny Lynch, Unified Community Connections Board Chair; and Jeff Bainbridge, Royal Farms.



(l to r) Jim Sellinger, Chancellor of Education of the Archdiocese of Baltimore; Paul Winterling, Professional Long Drive Hitter; Peggy Hutchinson; Brian Bent, President & Owner of Professional Baseball Training facility in Catonsville and Professional Long Drive Hitter; Bob Latshaw, Owner of Latshaw Commercial Real Estate; Cait Emerson; and Don Hutchinson, President & CEO of The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.



OUR MISSION:

TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN ACHIEVING
INDEPENDENCE, PRODUCTIVITY, AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE THEY SEEK.

HONORING MIMI WANG'S CAREER AT DELREY

Our best wishes to Delrey School Principal, Mimi Wang, who retired at the end of June. She joined the Delrey School as a teacher in 1971, when a majority of the students had cerebral palsy. "Delrey was one of the first institutions to work with these populations," says Mimi. "I was impressed with the progress Delrey was making and attracted to its small school environment." Mimi was soon promoted to director of education and then in 1984, to principal.

During her 45-year tenure, Delrey evolved to serve some of the most challenging physically disabled populations. "Our children have complex needs," says Mimi. "Every therapist and teacher has a key to open the child's door. I encourage my staff to work together to produce a master key," she explains. Through her leadership, Delrey staff have consistently sought out the latest mobility devices and equipment and employed the most precise teaching strategies and communication approaches. "Mimi has cultivated a talented group of professionals, and they are working miracles every day," says President and CEO of United Community Connections Diane Coughlin.

"Mimi has been a mentor and an inspiration to those of us who have had the distinct pleasure and good fortune to work with her," says Mrs. Coughlin. Mimi has earned tremendous loyalty and respect from her colleagues – contributing to the longevity of the staff at Delrey, many of whom have worked under her their entire professional careers. "Mimi has always been so supportive of the staff," says Sharon Conjar, senior physical therapist and a Delrey employee of 33 years. "She knew we couldn't focus on our work if we were worried about our children, so she started daycare at Delrey." Dorothy Lemon-Thompson, social work administrator and Delrey employee for 38 years adds, "Mimi was the first to start reverse inclusion and later, other programs copied us." It was a wonderful experience for all of the children and typical of Mimi's open and welcoming personality. "She is one of the warmest people I've ever met," says former Delrey parent, Ali Clark. "She made this little school feel like the Four Seasons."

Self-effacing in seeking recognition for her accomplishments, Mimi admits she is proud of her ability to maintain Delrey's high quality of services in a climate of ever-changing and challenging federal legislation. "Our children are a silent minority," says Mimi. "Their needs are so often ignored and neglected by the public." Her life's work has been educating children with disabilities through tireless advocacy and compassion.

"Mimi has successfully forged working relationships with the community and partner organizations that benefit Delrey and the children at Delrey," says Mrs. Lemon-Thompson. Mimi has served on the board of the Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities (MANSEF) and PROJECT ACT and participated in countless committees for the benefit of children with disabilities. "She has been fearless when it comes to the Delrey program. If you can do something for her students, even if you are the president of the United States, she will approach you. Getting students the services they need has always been Mimi's first priority, and she knows how to get it done," says Penny Lynch, chairman of the board of directors, Unified Community Connections.

Congratulations to Mimi for an exceptional career at Delrey. Her legacy lives on in the hundreds of children who have benefitted from the Delrey School and as a result, now lead fulfilling lives.



“Mimi has cultivated a talented group of professionals, and they are working miracles every day.”

Diane Coughlin

President and CEO

United Community Connections

LET YOUR WHEELS HELP TURN OUR WHEELS . . .

Let your wheels turn our wheels when you donate your car or vehicle to help children and adults with disabilities in Maryland. Unified Community Connections has a vehicle donation program that helps connect people with disabilities to life's possibilities through our adult day programs, residential homes, employment opportunities and the Delrey School. Cars, vans, trucks and other vehicles are accepted, and we provide free towing. Donating your vehicle may also be tax deductible. It's easy to donate your vehicle.

Just call 1-800-4Wheels today or donate online by visiting www.unified.org and clicking on vehicle donation.

AROUND THE AGENCY



House on Center Street in Frederick being completely rebuilt after fire last year.



The Frederick Day Program celebrate three individuals, Mickey Eyley, Kathy Poole, and Stephanie Wilson who have been a part of the Day Program for 25 years.



We congratulate David Boone, an individual at our Frederick Day Program who received his GED diploma in June.



Mark Price, an individual in our Personal Supports program in Hagerstown, saved his money for three months to attend a WWE Live wrestling event this spring.



Delrey held its 9th Annual Stroll N Roll event this spring, a pledge-based fundraiser that enables kids to participate in some sort of physical activity or challenge that is unique to them.

GARY LANE DONATES HIS WHEELS

“Donating your vehicle is a great way to support Unified Community Connections and the individuals we serve,” says Unified Community Connections CFO Gary Lane. He and his family have been actively fundraising for Unified for years, so when his car broke down on the beltway, the decision to donate was easy, and the process was painless. “It wasn’t worth repairing, so I called 1-800-4WHEELS on a Friday, told them where the car was, left the title inside, and the car was picked up on Monday.” Once you call, your vehicle is towed at no cost to you. Working and non-working cars, trucks, vans, SUVs, motorcycles, boats and RVs are all accepted. “My car earned \$1,000 for Unified, and I received a tax deduction,” says Mr. Lane. “I know every penny counts; donating just made sense.”