



182 Wolfpit Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06851  
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www.STARct.org

*Serving families in Norwalk, Westport, Weston,  
Wilton, New Canaan, Darien and surrounding areas*

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STAR, INC., LIGHTING THE WAY ★ 182 WOLFPIT AVENUE, NORWALK, CT 06851 ★ (203) 846-9581 ★ WWW.STARCT.ORG

Spotlight on STAR

Volume 22, Number 3

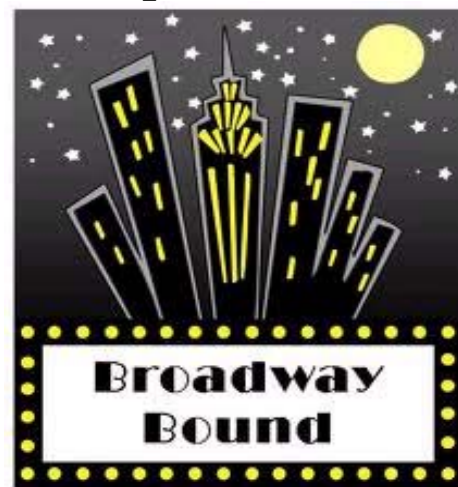
## Remembering Jane... A Visit from Elvis



Jane Burgess, a 15-year member of the STAR family, passed away recently--but not without one of her very special last wishes being granted. Jane, a long-time Elvis Presley fan, received a surprise visit from Elvis impersonator Richie Santa who sang several songs for her, including "Love Me Tender" and "I Can't Help Falling in Love With You." Jane was a spirited and active member of STAR, living at Ryan House--involved in church, the Red Hat Society, recreational activities and senior services. She was a joy to know. A service was held for Jane at St. Peter's Lutheran Church on August 1st, with a special reception featuring STAR's Rubberband playing an Elvis tribute.



## Coming in December! Theater of STARS presents:



Enjoy an evening of singing, dancing and good times when the Theater of STARS presents Broadway Bound! Contact Nancy Armstrong or Mark Minnock for information at 203-846-9581 x320 or email [narmstrong@starinonline.com](mailto:narmstrong@starinonline.com) or [mminnock@starinonline.com](mailto:mminnock@starinonline.com). Tentative show date is December 11th. Volunteers are needed for this production. Open to the public. Tickets will go on sale soon.

### Fall 2013 Volume 22, Number 3

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Wear STAR Wear!  
Shop Our Online Store!



STAR is partnering with [iEvent store.com](http://iEventstore.com) to sell STAR clothing and merchandise! A portion of every sale benefits STAR. Visit [iEvent store.com](http://iEventstore.com) to check out the STAR tee shirts, hats, hoodies, totes and other gear. Start your holiday shopping today!

## November 9th Gala Features Tuscan Theme and Priceless Experiences at Auction

Our 12th Annual Gala, Under the Tuscan STARS, will sparkle on Saturday, November 9th at Woodway Country Club in Darien! This \$250 per person black-tie optional event begins with cocktails and a silent auction followed by dinner, a live auction and dancing until midnight. This year's auction will include priceless experiences like a week for four in a Tuscan villa, VIP event tickets for the 2014 Superbowl, Masters Golf Tournament and MTV Music Awards, an exotic vacation to Bali and an African safari. Other highlights include a pasta-making class for 6, weekend lease of a new BMW and lecture series with lunch at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Visit [www.STARct.org](http://www.STARct.org) for more information!



*STAR Board and Members of the GALA committee planning a special evening to benefit STAR.*

## Volunteers ★ STARS Among Us

STAR is grateful to the many spring and summertime volunteers who worked tirelessly on projects from special activities for our clients to office support, marketing and group home improvements! Thank you to Aon Hewitt, GE Capital, GE, Nielsen, and IHS Herold.



*At left: GE Capital volunteers build a recreational area, paint and landscape a group home in Norwalk.*



*At left: volunteers from Aon Hewitt landscape, stain the deck and plant a garden at a group home in Westport.*



*Above: volunteers from The Nielsen Company (Wilton, CT) landscape and paint a group home in Norwalk.*

# Thank You!

We are thankful for each grantor and donor who generously contributes funds to help support STAR. We are proud to include among our most recent gifts:

- **Westport Women's Club** \$750 for changing table at STAR
- **Community Fund of Darien** \$45,000 for STAR Rubino Family Center
- **United Way of Coastal Fairfield County** \$30,000 for STAR Rubino Family Center
- **Knights of Columbus** \$1,253
- **Thompson Family Reunion & Thompson Trot** \$1,455

## Meet The INTERNS!

STAR had a number of summer interns this year working on a variety of projects from marketing and research to support in day services and employment services. Thanks to our terrific interns!

Top photo: Tommy Vicenzi of Norwalk;  
Middle photo: Melissa Vanasse of STAR's Employment Services with intern Marian Dubois of Westport; Bottom photo: Sarah and James Garijo-Garde of Darien



Other recent summer interns not pictured: Nia Walcott, Kelly Zhang, Darline St. Juste and Ammonie Jackson  
For info about interning, call Megan Johnson at 203-846-9581 x339.



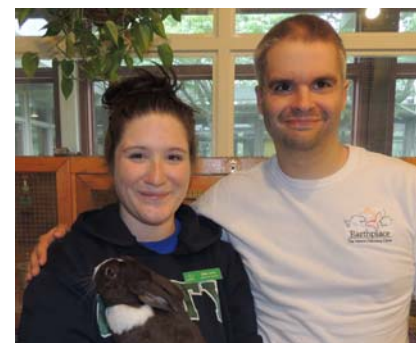
## INDEPENDENT LIVING Programs

### STAR Helps People Live Independent, Active Lives!

STAR's residential in-home support programs encourage individuals to increase their independence and activity by providing assistance with shopping, appointments, doctors visits and transportation to community activities such as church, clubs and social groups. Barbara has been with STAR since 1974, says the program is a godsend to her, helping her to get out for her grocery and clothing shopping, taking her to doctors appointments and other activities. She feels she can call anytime and receive the assistance that she needs. Barbara also participates in STAR's seniors program, meet-ups with friends, meetings of the Red Hat Society, church and occasional visits with her brother Dennis and his wife Kathy. She enjoys taking care of her apartment and looking at her beautiful garden.



Kaywana Miller (center) of STAR has enjoyed the atmosphere and company of co-workers Alicia Barry (left) and Maria Kelly (right) at Born of Earth Spa in Westport.



At Earthplace in Westport, Matt Klements of STAR (right) enjoys working around nature and the animals. Here he is pictured with Erika LaBrie, animal care technician.

## STARS at Work



## 2012-2013 Board of Directors

Officers	Directors
Edward Piorkowski, Jr. President	Assaf Ben-Atar
Meghan Cioffi Vice President	Doug Bayer
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Mary McGee Recording Secretary	Joan Dionne
Mickey Herbst Corresponding Secretary	Talisha Maxwell
	Mary Kennedy
	Pat O'Connor
	Cathleen Piscitell
	Joe Viesta

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[www.STARct.org](http://www.STARct.org)

## In Memory

We are saddened by the recent loss of two long-time staff members,  
Pam Drew and  
Ron Uccellini.

## WISH LIST

Make a difference by donating the following items or the money to purchase them:

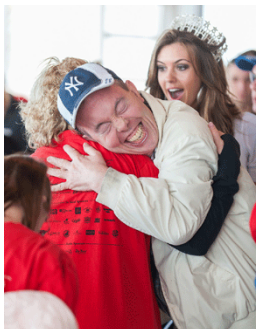
- Kitchen pots & pans
- Cooking utensils
- Plastic glasses
- Toaster
- Food processor
- Microwave oven
- Dishwasher
- Cooking knife sets
- Flat screen televisions
- Framed wall artwork
- Leather sofa & loveseat
- Living room draperies & blinds
- Karaoke machine
- iPads
- Books on tape
- Music CD's
- Movie gift certificates
- DVD players
- Basketball hoop net
- NuStep Recumbent Cross Trainer
- Aerobic, dance, yoga instruction
- Bedroom & bathroom curtains
- Shower curtains & bathroom carpets
- New, full size bed/mattress
- Paper shredder
- Computer classes
- Patio umbrella, table, chairs
- Daffodil bulbs

To donate, email  
psaverine@starinonline.com.

To Commemorate **Katie Banzhaf's 30th Anniversary at STAR**,  
we invite you to support the

## Wish Upon A STAR Fund

created by the Board of Directors of STAR, Inc., Lighting the Way



As a thank you for three decades of smiles, special moments and heartfelt dedication to the STAR family, we invite you to join us in acknowledging Katie Banzhaf's tireless efforts and 30 years of impassioned service promoting and protecting the welfare, happiness and quality of life for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and the community-at-large.

Every dollar you give will be **DOUBLED\*** by a matching gift pledge from our Board of Directors (past and present members)  
\*up to the first \$15,000

Visit [STARct.org](http://STARct.org) and click on DONATE NOW or send a check payable to:  
STAR Foundation indicating that your donation is for  
Katie's 30th Anniversary Wish Upon A STAR Fund.

## Counting Our Lucky STARS Staff With 25 Years and more!

STAR is so proud and ever so grateful to have 11 staff members with over 25 years at our agency! That's combined service of over 275 years! Thank you to our loyal and talented employees for their dedication.

Pictured, at right: Michael Flynn, Linda Sarosi, Tim Inwood and Lorraine Santo. Pictured below: Jim Vecchio, Mohammad Khan, Jim Delmoor, Linda Snell, Bill Casale, Kari Ryan and Mable Little.



25th ANNIVERSARIES  
COMING UP SOON!

Pete Smith and  
Jonathan Chandler will  
celebrate 25 years on  
October 30 and  
November 6,  
respectively!