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# Remembering Carl: Inglis Resident Lounge



*Inglis House resident Deborah Smith (left) enjoys listening to music while fellow resident Judy Chadrow catches up on her reading in the library section of the Resident Lounge. A favorite spot at Inglis House, the Resident Lounge was completed in 2006 to create more space for resident activities. It features computer stations, a television, and a book, movie and music library. Many of the books and music CD's that residents enjoy were donated from the estate of Carl Frank, Inglis Consumer Advisory Committee member and past Chair. An avid reader and lover of music, Carl, who also worked at the computer help desk in the Inglis Information Technology Department, passed away on May 6, 2007. In Carl's memory, his family and friends donated more than 1,500 of his books and music CD's to the Resident Lounge. To commemorate the generous donation, the reading area has been renamed the Carl Frank Memorial Library. Carl's photo and memorial plaque (center) adorn the wall of the popular space.*

2.

## Image

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Inglis provides institutional and community-based services for people with physical disabilities via five corporations: Inglis Foundation (parent corporation), Inglis House (nursing facility), Inglis Housing Corporation (accessible housing), Inglis Durable Medical Equipment Company, Inc., and Inglis At Home Services, LLC (personal assistance).

# Inglis Appoints New Board Members

Six new directors were elected to the Inglis Foundation Board in September 2007 along with the re-election of eight others. The election followed a restructuring of the organization. The Foundation Board now oversees Inglis



House; Inglis Housing Corporation (accessible, affordable housing); Inglis Durable Medical Equipment Co. (supplies mobility equipment); and all other Inglis programs (at home care, adult day program, community employment and care management).

## The New Directors are:

(shown left to right in the photo with Board Chair Luisa Rabe, seated at right):

- Theodore (Ted) Robb - Robb Associates (front row)
- Sankey Williams, M.D. – Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System
- Michael Dandorph - Senior Vice President of Business Development, University of Pennsylvania Health System
- Nancy Kirby - Assistant Dean & Director of Admissions, Graduate School of Social Work & Social Research at Bryn Mawr College; elected Secretary
- John Dugan - Partner, Health Industries Advisory Practice, Price Waterhouse Coopers
- JoAnne Fredericks - Senior Vice President, Pennsylvania Trust Company

## The Eight Re-elected Directors are:

- Board Chair Luisa Rabe - President, Pruettt Rabe Associates
- Vice Chair Mary Lee Stallkamp - Community Volunteer
- Treasurer Caryl Carpenter, Ph.D. - Head, Department of Management, Health and Human Resources, Widener University
- Carolyn Bennett - Community Volunteer
- Alison T. Dante - Attorney, Morgan Lewis Bockius LLP
- Marisa Rogers, M.D., M.P.H. - Medical Director, Spectrum Health Services, Inc.
- Laura Schwanger - Regional Administrator (retired), United Spinal Association
- Jacqueline Zinn, Ph.D. - Professor, Fox School of Business and Management, Temple University

## Residents Shine on the Main Line



*Resident Will Parker displays his artwork with (from left) Inglis volunteers Jill Stone and Anita Morris and Bryn Mawr Trust employee Annette Stephens.*

4.

The Old City Arts Association of Philadelphia started First Friday's more than 15 years ago as a collaborative open house evening at a group of galleries. The concept quickly grew into a signature cultural event each month bringing together city dwellers and suburbanites to enjoy contemporary and more traditional art forms.

In 2006 the Philadelphia suburban communities of Ardmore, Haverford and Bryn Mawr organized First Friday Main Line to bring artists, musicians and performers to locations outside the city. This year Inglis House resident artists were invited to exhibit their work at two Bryn Mawr Trust Company branches (Bryn Mawr and Ardmore). The exhibition, which kicked off on the



*Inglis House resident artist Dana Hirsch and staff member Dawn Waller with Dana's creations.*

first Friday of September, ran for an entire month so that everyday bank customers were also exposed to the artwork.

## Inglis Award Recipients Honored

The Awards Review Committee of the 2007 Inglis Awards for Continuing Excellence program awarded \$20,000 grants to four organizations at a ceremony at Inglis House in Philadelphia. The awards from Inglis Foundation recognize organizations working to enhance the quality of life and increase opportunities for independence for people with physical disabilities. The 2007 recipients were:

**Self-Determination Housing Project of Pennsylvania** – a statewide home modification program that helps people with disabilities remain independent in their own homes by making them more accessible. ([www.sdhp.org](http://www.sdhp.org))

**Pennsylvania Center for Adapted Sports** – provides community-based sports and recreation programs for people with physical disabilities including skiing, rowing, cycling, climbing and kayaking. ([www.centeronline.com](http://www.centeronline.com))



*The 2007 Inglis Awards recipients (from left) Gail Hoffman, Self-Determination Housing Project of Pennsylvania; Isabel Bohn, Pennsylvania Center for Adapted Sports; Inglis Awards Review Committee Chair Janet Ries Stern; John Connolly, InspiriTec, Inc.; Jennifer Kriesel (with service puppy-in-training), Canine Partners for Life.*

# Award Recipients

*(continued)*

**InspiriTec, Inc.** – helps people with disabilities find information technology jobs such as working at call centers, developing software and providing network administration. InspiriTec also provides vocational training, counseling and assistive technology to help clients keep their jobs. ([www.inspiritec.org](http://www.inspiritec.org))

**Canine Partners for Life** – professionally trains and places service dogs that increase the independence and quality of life of individuals with mobility impairments, physical disabilities and seizure disorders. ([www.k94life.org](http://www.k94life.org))

The 2008 program is already underway; winners will be announced in June 2008. Janet Ries Stern, chair of the 2007 awards review committee, commented, “The Awards program has already helped expand the work of a variety of area agencies whose missions complement ours. The entire Inglis community benefits from their fine work. Our goal in 2008 is to assist even more worthy organizations that serve people with physical disabilities.”

# Board Members Honored

Three former Board members were honored with Annie Inglis Gold Coins at a September Board meeting. The Gold Coin – named for the organization's founder, Annie Inglis – is the Foundation's highest service award. Those honored were:



**Linda Fisher** – who gave Inglis 16 years of service, including acting as secretary on the boards of Inglis Foundation, At Home Services, House and Durable Medical Equipment Company. She also chaired the Development and Public Relations Committee and served on the Nominating, Quality Services, Human Resources and Foundation Executive Committees during her term.

Together with her husband, Walt, Linda chaired two annual fundraising events, whose proceeds support Inglis House resident programs.



**Carolyn Morris** – Served on the Inglis Housing Corporation Board and chaired the Inglis House Board. During her 4 years of service she was also a member of the Executive Committees for Inglis House and Inglis Foundation, the Development and Public Relations Committee and the Governance Task Force.



**Janet Ries Stern** – served Inglis for 18 years, most recently as Chair of the Inglis Housing Corporation Board. She also served on the Development and Public Relations, Ethics and Compliance, Finance and Audit, Executive, House Retirement Plan, Nominating and Planning Committees during her tenure. Janet also organized the Inglis Awards for Continuing Excellence program and chaired the

Awards Review Committee. The program is a three-year pilot project to expand Inglis' reach in the community through grants to organizations that serve people with physical disabilities.

# Talent Abounds at Philadelphia Disability Arts Festival

8.

From a glittering opening night at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia through a month of more than 50 events, the first Philadelphia Festival of Disability Arts and Culture – *Independence Starts Here* showcased the talents of people with disabilities in all the arts. Two years in the planning, Festival goals included:

- Building awareness of the work of artists with disabilities
- Building audiences from within the community of people with disabilities
- Increasing accessibility (and awareness of accessibility) to arts and cultural events in Philadelphia
- Improving sensitivity about the disability community within the arts and hospitality industries

The Festival, which ran from October 18 through November 20, 2007, included the work of professional and community artists with disabilities as well as work inspired by the experience of disability. It included performances of theatre, music, dance, comedy and magic; readings of poetry, plays and other literary works; historical, cultural and visual art exhibits; lectures and discussions; workshops and film series.

Inglis Foundation was a Festival sponsor and resident Eliot Spindel was webmaster for the festival's website ([www.independencestartshere.org](http://www.independencestartshere.org)). And, Founders' Hall in Inglis House was the site for two performances:



FESTIVAL OF  
DISABILITY ARTS  
& CULTURE

Independence  
STARTS HERE!



**“Visual Concert”** – A trio of Curtis Institute musicians (see picture on p. 10) performed classical chamber music while simultaneously projecting a visual interpretation of the music on a screen behind them. Each artist operated foot pedals to choreograph the changing visual images. This unique concept of providing a visual dimension to music was developed by Hugh Sung, Curtis faculty member and concert pianist.



*Filmmaker Shelley Barry (right) met with Inglis House residents of the Disciples of Film project to discuss adapting video equipment for use by people with disabilities. Shown here with Chris Ambolino (left), filmmaker Milli Bonilla and resident Stuart Sanderson.*

**Shelley Barry Film Series** – Award winning South African poet and filmmaker Shelley Barry screened several of her short films which have been featured at festivals around the world and have been acquired by WYBE and MTV in the USA. Ms. Barry met with residents prior to the screening and also answered questions after the films.



*Inglis residents Gina Minter, Rita McGinley, Yvette Green, Stuart Sanderson and Robyn Monahan perform at the Playground at the Adrienne Theater.*

In addition, five Inglis House residents presented a multi-media performance at the Playground at the Adrienne Theater in center city.

**Hand to Hand** incorporated poetry, music and video created and performed by resident artists Yvette Green, Stuart Sanderson, Rita McGinley, Gina Minter and Robyn Monahan and directed by Stephen Patrick Smith and Josette Todaro Smith from the Amaryliss Theatre Company.

# Arts Festival

*(continued)*

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## Music on an Astral Plane

Astral Artistic Services helps recent music school and conservatory graduates gain the skills and contacts they need to embark on careers as classical musicians. Astral also arranges high-profile recital and solo performances for them in Philadelphia and New York City. In addition, Astral's Inward Bound program brings talented young artists and the finest classical music to those who may no longer be able to attend public concerts due to age or disability. The programs are fulfilling both for the audience and the performers.

Inglis House residents recently enjoyed two Astral Inward Bound programs including the Curtis Institute Visual Concert in November (which was part of Independence Starts Here).

A group of Temple University Occupational Therapy students who attended the Curtis concert with Inglis residents, commented, "The residents who watched the concert seemed relaxed, calm, happy, and appreciative. I feel that it was a benefit in culture, coping, flow, sensory stimulation, and education." Another said, "The individuals that were there obviously enjoyed music and you could tell that it was very meaningful ... for many of them. Just watching many of their faces light up when they heard the music was priceless."



*Curtis Institute musicians Jennifer Curtis, Michael Mizrahi and Susan Babini prepare to perform in Founders' Hall.*

# Holiday Volunteering



*Volunteers Henry (from left), John and Theo Fountain with Inglis House resident Yvette Green.*

Inglis House provides all types of volunteer opportunities – on-going as well as occasional. Holiday times are always popular volunteer times – especially Thanksgiving. Typically, more than 200 volunteers arrive for the annual Thanksgiving dinner for residents. The event is so large that two solariums are now used in addition to Founders’ Hall to accommodate all the residents and their guests.

For volunteer John Fountain, the dinner has become a family event. “It’s important for my family to give of our time on Thanksgiving,” he said. “It’s our way of giving thanks.”

On a day when many folks like to sleep late, watch football and eat too much, the Fountain family arrives at Inglis House bright and early, ready to help serve Thanksgiving dinner. According to Director of Volunteers Peggy Haley, “Although there are always new volunteers for Thanksgiving, John and his family are regulars. They have become so skilled that Dietary staff now depends on their experienced help.”

John, who first became a Thanksgiving volunteer at Inglis House nearly 10 years ago, brings along his sons Theo and Henry and any available family member and friend. “Every year we look forward to seeing Inglis House residents, staff and fellow volunteers on Thanksgiving,” John adds. “We’re all family that day.”

For information on one-time or on-going volunteer opportunities at Inglis House – or to suggest your own project, please call the Volunteer Office at (215) 581-0718 or email [info@inglis.org](mailto:info@inglis.org).

# Inglis Apartments at Germantown Open

The newest Inglis Housing Corporation wheelchair-accessible apartment complex for people with physical disabilities – Inglis Gardens at Germantown – was dedicated at an open house October 10, 2007. Located at 332 E. Walnut Lane in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, the complex features 10 one-bedroom and four two-bedroom wheelchair-accessible apartments. It also has an accessible laundry room, a community room and off-street parking.

Inglis Housing Corporation apartments feature wider doorways; lower ramp pitch; light switches, thermostats and electrical receptacles at wheelchair height; and kitchens and bathrooms easily maneuvered by someone in a wheelchair. Inglis Housing also provides financial accessibility through partnerships with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the

12.



*Preparing to cut the ceremonial ribbon at Inglis Apartments at Germantown (from left) Susan Segal (representing Senator Arlen Specter), Cindy Bass (representing U.S. Representative Chaka Fattah), Paulette Bailey (representing State Senator LeAnna Washington), tenant Jai Sujun, Inglis Foundation Board Chair Luisa Rabe, Philadelphia City Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller, Inglis Housing Corporation Director of Operations Arthurette Morris-Stone, State Representative Dwight Evans and State Representative John Myers.*

Philadelphia Housing Authority for rental subsidies that reduce qualified tenants' rents to approximately 30% of their income.

Architects Cecil Baker & Partners designed the garden-style complex with Domus, Inc. as the general contractor. Construction of the \$4.1 million project was completed in August 2007. Inglis is grateful to the following funding partners that made the complex a reality: U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, Sovereign Bank, Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community Development, Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and Inglis Foundation.

Seven of the new tenants moving into Inglis Gardens at Germantown are former Inglis House residents who recently completed the Community Re-Entry Program which prepares them for successful independent living. The six-step training program provides practical experiences so participants are comfortable directing their attendant caregivers, managing their finances and handling all the everyday activities of living.

**I**n January 2008, Inglis Housing Corporation will open 40 new independent living apartments in southwest Philadelphia. This newest complex, Inglis Apartments at Elmwood, will feature 31 one-bedroom and nine three-bedroom apartments. The project is funded through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) – which provides capital to build, rehabilitate and manage affordable multi-family rental apartment complexes in the state.



## The Sky's the Limit in Careers

“After my spinal cord injury, I thought there was no reason why I couldn’t work,” Inglis Housing Corporation tenant Mickie Greenstein said. “I just needed the right opportunity.”



*Mickie Greenstein (center) pauses with his Greater Philadelphia Cares co-workers at a volunteer recruitment fair.*

14.

Mickie’s neighbor Mike Engro, also disabled from a spinal cord injury, felt the same way. Both men lived at Inglis House and then moved into their own wheelchair-accessible apartments – Mike in 1995, and Mickie in 2002.

With little previous work experience, Inglis Community Employment Services staff suggested community-based assessments to see how Mickie would perform in real job situations. His first assignment was at Greater Philadelphia Cares, a Philadelphia non-profit that places volunteers. After just a few days, they hired him as a paid employee. “I’ve grown more as a person because of the skills I’ve developed at this job,” Mickie, who recently marked his second anniversary at the agency, added. “I’m the office manager now and I love my job.”

Inglis Community Employment Services contracts with the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to perform community-based assessments like Mickie’s as well as job coaching - working alongside clients as long as necessary to ensure their success on the job.

Job coaching built Mike's confidence in his work skills as a peer counselor with Inglis Care Management. "I liked that job, but I wanted more interaction with the general public," Mike said. "I'm a true people person." Mike began managing his brother's restaurant, Francesca's Main Street Pub in Norristown, PA. "My commute went from two minutes to work at Inglis to over a half-hour on ParaTransit," Mike said. "But you have to be willing to change things in order to grow."

"My job in Inglis Care Management helped prepare me for this career," Mike admits. "It gave me the confidence and skills to move on." Mickie Greenstein agrees, "When I got hurt, I didn't know what I was going to do. Now, the sky is the limit. I hope my experience helps empower other people with disabilities who want to work."



*Mike Engro (center) with staff at Francesca's Bar and Grill (from left) Stephanie Salvo, Patrick DeLeo, Joe Engro and Bob Brannon.*

## Inglis Care Management Serves More People



*Inglis Care Management staff (foreground from left) Michele Hamilton, Carol Jones (Director), Jennifer Kanthor, Veronica Hill-Milbourne (Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer), and (background from left) Dan Massaro, Alverta Davis and Jackie Smith.*

16.

Inglis Care Management has provided training, support and referrals so that people with physical disabilities can live successfully on their own and avoid institutional care since 2002. Care Management helps clients find and obtain services for daily living assistance, respite care, home modifications, specialized equipment and supplies, personal emergency response systems, skills training, peer counseling, therapies, transportation and much more.

The Inglis program expanded in August 2007 to reach people with physical disabilities living independently in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties – who are eligible for Medicaid’s Home and Community-Based Waiver Program. Clients can now choose Inglis Care Management as their supports

coordinator. Supports coordination is available for people enrolled in the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare’s Independence Waiver or OBRA Waiver programs. According to Inglis Care Management Director Carol Jones, “We are pleased that the unique expertise and commitment to quality that Inglis offers can be put to work for people who are eligible for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waivers.”

To learn more about Inglis Care Management Supports Coordination, call Inglis Customer Service at 1.866.2.INGLIS (1.866.246.4547), or visit [www.inglis.org/community\\_care\\_management.jsp](http://www.inglis.org/community_care_management.jsp).



## Driver License Center Employees Recognized

Inglis Community Employment Services has run Philadelphia-area Photo



Licensing Centers for the Pennsylvania Department of Motor Vehicles through a contract with Pennsylvania Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (PIBH) since 2002. Two licensing staff members have been in the news recently.

**Magaly Britt**, who was born in Columbia, South America, received the Nettie Mann Achievement Award from PIBH last year for her work at the Bortondale, PA, Licensing Center. When she was a very young girl, Magaly was found buried in a hole in a rural mountain area of Columbia. She

was severely malnourished and barely breathing. Doctors believe that the lack of oxygen may have caused her cerebral palsy and her learning disability.

According to her mother, “Magaly is a remarkably strong person to have survived, and persevered in this life thus far. She is bright and bubbly and really enjoys being around people. She is a strong advocate for herself, and is not afraid to ask questions when she is not sure of something.”

Another employee, **Melissa Sweeney**, who is a maintenance worker at the Fairless Hills, PA, Driver Licensing Center, was profiled in an extensive article by *Philadelphia Inquirer* writer Michael Vitez (“Finding Jasta,” September 12, 2007). Melissa suffered a traumatic brain injury in 2003 when she and her infant daughter, Jasta, were hit by a drunk driver. The child was killed in the accident and Melissa was in a coma nearly a month and had a long road to recovery. This is her first successful job placement since the accident. Inglis staff provide intensive job coaching and support for her.

According to her Inglis job coach, Jennifer Holtzworth, Melissa was thrilled with the response from readers after the article appeared in the *Inquirer*. She received many positive emails with praise and encouragement. One reader, a doctor, offered her free help with her memory loss (a common symptom for people with traumatic brain injury). In addition, several readers sent checks to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) in her honor.

# Donors' Support Essential

18.

We are grateful for the support that Inglis receives from so many individuals, corporations and charitable foundations. Between July 1, 2007 and November 30, 2007 Inglis received the following grants from charitable organizations to fund general operating expenses – the **Alpin J. and Alpin W. Cameron Memorial Trust**, the **Louis N. Cassett Foundation** and the **Sherrerd Foundation**. Donations that support specific Inglis programs and services include:

**The Barra Foundation** – contributed unrestricted support which we are directing to the Inglis House resident social enrichment programming which brings cultural, artistic, recreational and inspirational events and activities to Inglis House.

**Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation** – funded the conversion of a hallway in the Inglis Therapy Building into a gallery to display the artwork of Inglis House residents and Philadelphia area artists with disabilities. The gallery is open to the public.

**Lincoln Financial Foundation** – increased funding for the Inglis House Community Re-entry Program which trains residents who are working toward moving to independent living in the community.

**Pennsylvania Council on the Arts** – is funding a documentary to be produced by the Inglis House resident film group, Disciples of Art with assistance from The Dream Alliance, a company that brings film making expertise to non-traditional artists.

**Sovereign Bank** – increased support for recreational, social and education activities for the tenants of two of Inglis Housing Corporation's newest apartment complexes – Inglis Gardens at Germantown and Inglis Gardens at Washington Lane in Philadelphia.



*Sovereign Bank Vice President, Community Development Officer Joe Schupp (far right) recently visited Inglis Gardens at Germantown. He is shown here with (back row from left) Inglis Housing Corporation Director of Operations, Arthurette Morris-Stone, Inglis Gardens maintenance staff Lee Carrion and Carlette Shavers and (front) Apartment Operations Manager Deidre McDonald and tenant Michael Citro.*

## Contributors' Report Update

Inglis Foundation makes every effort to ensure that its lists of donors and contributors are accurate. However, sometimes errors occur. We would like to make the following corrections to the Fiscal 2006-2007 Annual Contributors Report in the Fall 2007 issue of *Image*:

- Ms. Susan F. Starr contributed at the Patrons level, rather than the Friends level as reported.
- Mr. Samuel Pitoscia's gift in memory of Carmen Pitoscia was inadvertently omitted from our list of Tribute & Memorial Gifts.

We apologize for these errors. If you have any questions regarding your gifts to Inglis or your donor listing, please call or e-mail Director of Development Kate Farrell at 215.581.0702 or [kate.farrell@inglis.org](mailto:kate.farrell@inglis.org).

## Honoring Someone Special in Your Life

19.

A gift to Inglis Foundation can be a thoughtful way to remember or honor a friend, family member or loved one – or commemorate an event in your own life. Your tax-deductible donation will enrich the lives of many in the Inglis community by strengthening programs and services that improve the quality of life for adults with physical disabilities. Special booklets with gift cards and envelopes are available from the Development Office. Please call 215-581-0741 to request a packet for use anytime throughout the year.



# Tips on Offering Your Help

20.

If you're not sure how to relate to people in wheelchairs, Inglis has updated its booklet of helpful tips called ***Walking with People on Wheels***. With input from residents and staff at Inglis House, the guide offers suggestions on when and how to offer assistance and also on using “people first” language to refer to wheelchair users.

If you think someone in a wheelchair requires help, the best approach is to offer it, and then let them choose to accept or not. Here are other tips:

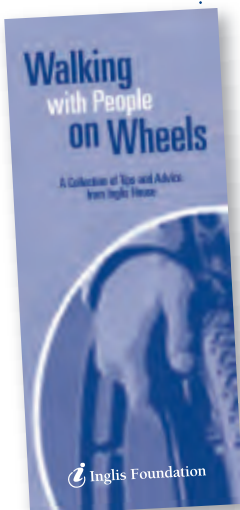
- You can offer to reach items from a high grocery store shelf, get plastic bags for produce, or place items on the checkout counter.
- Most wheelchair users are able to navigate their way through various spaces and narrow areas, so there is no need to clear a wide path for them.
- When speaking with someone in a wheelchair, focus on the person – not the wheelchair. Speak in the same tone and use the same eye contact with the person in the wheelchair as you would with anyone else.

Here are some examples of some proper and improper terms for referring to someone in a wheelchair:

- When speaking or writing, use people-first language. Say, a “person with a disability” rather than “a disabled person.”
- Avoid outdated or offensive labels like “handicapped,” “crippled,” “differently-abled” or “physically challenged.”
- Use the term “wheelchair user” rather than “wheelchair bound” or “confined to a wheelchair.”

To receive a copy of ***Walking with People on Wheels: A Collection of Tips and Advice from Inglis House***, please send a self-addressed #10 envelope with 58 cents postage to:

Inglis Foundation, Public Relations Department  
2600 Belmont Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19131



## Two Inglis House Traditions

The 20th annual Harvest Ball was held November 2, 2007. It brought together nearly 150 residents, staff and volunteers in Founders' Hall to dance and socialize.

Carl Brooks and Marilyn Fredenthal enjoy the evening's festivities.



Inglis House resident Donna Duckenfield was named Most Courageous Athlete at the 31st Annual Keen Games held September 15, 2007. Recreational Therapist Rachel Cohen presented her trophy after the day's competitive events among more than 80 residents.

21.

### *Another tradition we're proud of....*

Inglis House regularly receives high marks in its annual Department of Health surveys, but this year we were 100% deficiency-free. As Inglis House Executive Director Timothy Murphy says, "Inglis House has a commitment to residents and their families to provide the best possible care. This commitment is proven in our recent annual survey. Continuous staff training programs, quality improvement measures and staff dedication are what makes Inglis House an example to other healthcare organizations in the Delaware Valley. Staff at all levels are responsible for this success."

# Advocacy Experience Leads to Gubernatorial Appointment

“You learn to live life every day thinking about making a difference,” Inglis Housing Corporation tenant John Merkins, Jr. said. After a car accident left him with permanent quadriplegia, John founded the motivational speaking program *John’s Voice*. He travels to area schools speaking on drinking and driving. When not conducting assemblies, he works as a customer service representative with the *Philadelphia Phillies* and he was recently appointed by Governor Edward G. Rendell to the Pennsylvania Governor’s Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities. The Committee reports on discrimination in employment, housing and transportation. John is also a member of the Inglis Consumer Advisory Committee. “If I can motivate one life through my efforts, then everything that has happened to me would be worth it,” John said.



*John Merkins, Jr.*

22.

# Consumer Advisory Committee Elects Officers



Belden Jones  
*Chairman*



Christopher Doerner  
*Vice Chair*



Ann Hunter  
*Secretary*

The Inglis Consumer Advisory Committee (ICAC), which recommends strategies to the Inglis board on reducing barriers to independent living and improving the service delivery system for people with physical disabilities, recently elected officers for two-year terms beginning in 2008. In addition to their advisory duties, prior to the 2007 Philadelphia elections, ICAC members met privately with Edgar Howard, the Philadelphia Election Commissioner to discuss voting accommodations for people with physical disabilities. Inglis House is the local polling place for many neighborhood voters. They also arranged for presentations at Inglis House by both mayoral candidates - Republican Al Taubenberger and Democrat (and winner) Michael Nutter.

*"Yes, you could attend another event – or you could stay at home and have some reel fun on us!"*



Guests will receive a DVD of the award-winning film, "The Secret Campaign," produced and directed by Inglis residents. You set your own date to enjoy the show at home - We'll even supply the microwave popcorn!

A variety of support levels are available - your fully tax-deductible donation benefits Inglis House residents and Inglis Foundation clients. Please call (215) 581-0702 for complete details, and plan to join us for a night of fun...at home!



# Image



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1, 2008

**A-May-Zing Committee Resident Party**  
Founders' Hall

April 27, 2008

**26th Annual Inglis 5 Race**  
Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, PA

April 30, 2008

**Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon**  
Founders' Hall

June 2, 2008

**7th Annual Inglis Golf Outing**  
Waynesborough Country Club, Paoli, PA

*To receive Image online, go to [www.inglis.org](http://www.inglis.org)*