



Social In The Summer

Summer is the season we all look forward to in the northeast the most.

The residents at CLASP are no different from you and me in that respect. They enjoy a day at the beach, a boat ride, fishing, and a trip to a museum or just going out for frozen yogurt on a beautiful summer evening.

For our folks, these activities aren't just enjoyable and the making of fond memories, they are learning experiences. Many of our men and women have no prior experience at social interaction.

A recreational outing can offer communication with other people, a chance to use newly acquired social skills and make new friends while giving the community a better understanding of who we are. Thank you for partnering with CLASP to keep our folks connected and smiling!



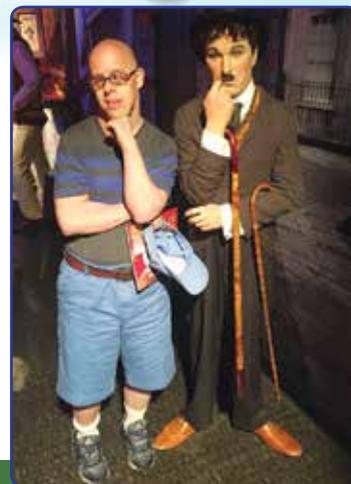
Sarah and Billy go for a dip!



Debbie, Denise and Susan enjoying lunch at Carmine's in NYC



Joe Paul and Rachel enjoy the ferry ride to Port Jeff



Neal & Charlie Chaplin at Madame Tussauds wax museum in NYC

You Ought To Be In Pictures

"Spirit of Perseverance Award"

Goodwill Industries sent a film crew to document its "Spirit of Perseverance Award" winner Sam Dupree as he made breakfast and went about his

daily routine. Sam was presented with his award at the Trumbull Marriott with his sisters and girlfriend Mariam in attendance. This was a very special day for Sam!



Game On!

Go Pirates!

This is the third year that CLASP has sponsored a Westport Little League team. We were thrilled to be assigned to the Pirates. Not only does generous CLASP supporter John Videler's son play for them, he is their coach! Our folks always enjoy the games and meeting the players and their coaches.



CLASP Says Goodbye

*“There are
Far, Far Better
Things Ahead
Than Any
We Leave Behind”*

- C.S. Lewis



DEBBIE GOWER
TOYS AND JOYS

Debbie always loved stuffed animals and her pocketbooks. That didn't change although a lot of things did in her life recently. She had a rough patch a few years ago when she lost her job, and had some medical problems, but this last year she was better, returning to her old self and happy; always on the go and looking forward to each new day. When her heart unexpectedly gave out, it took a little bit of each of ours with her.

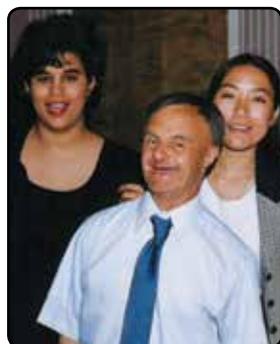
Debbie passed in November of last year. She was 62.

A Force So Gentle. A Love So Strong.

LAURA POLOZZOLO

Laura Polozzolo was part of the CLASP family for 30 years and left us way too early at 51 years.

It's very hard to capture and relay to people who didn't know Laura what her life meant to the CLASP family and the Reeds Lane Ladies in particular. She went about her "job" quietly, competently, and always with so much love, that no one, including her, thought what she did was "work". She was mom, friend and confidante to those around her. She found joy in the little quirky differences each lady brought to Reeds and each made her smile every day. She was a gentle force that made an impact in each life she touched. She took care of everyone around her in a way that made them feel special. The Egyptians believe that at the end of life we will be asked two questions; have you found joy in your life? Has your life brought joy to others? In Laura's case the answer is a resounding yes! She will be missed.



JOHN MEZQUIDA

John Mezquida was born in 1939. He was CLASP's oldest resident when he passed on. In his younger years he resided in various institutions where he worked doing landscaping. He continued with it when he came to CLASP. Despite his small size John loved hard physical activity and was good at it. That made it all the more difficult for him when his body began

to fail him. John would eventually lose much of his physical strength and mobility, but he never lost his smile or his heart.

John passed at his home in April, he was 77.



LENNY RONKIN

Lenny loved to dance. He was the stylish guy with the fedora on the dance floor at every CLASP event. His charm was in his step, his smile and twinkle in his eye.

Over the last few years Lenny was in declining health and went from being the life of the party to being unable to get out of bed, but he never lost his smile. That smile, his twinkle and

the courage with which he faced his trials made it easy to love him and still harder to say goodbye.

Lenny passed in November of 2015, he was 75.

