



FALASCA MECHANICAL WORKERS INSTALL LIGHTING ON THE NEW AGENCY SIGN

*News from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties*

## Big News



January February 2013

2013 LITTLE MOMENTS

## Holiday Parties Bring Joy to All

On December 1, 2012 the Cumberland County Bar Association hosted a Breakfast Christmas party for Cumberland County Bigs and Littles. The party was held at Gia's catering at Bridgeton and included a visit from Santa who handed out gifts to all the Little Brothers and Sisters.

The Salem Meeting house was the location of the Salem County Christmas party on December 15, 2012 for Bigs and Littles. This party included a visit from Santa Clause with wrapped gifts for all the Littles. In addition the attendees selected gifts from an array of books, stuffed animals, and other goodies.

Finally, Big Brothers Big Sisters hosted an open house at the agency for Littles who did not attend either of the other parties. Each Little received wrapped gifts. In addition the children were allowed to select gifts from an assortment of stuffed animals, books and, backpacks. There was also food for the Littles to take home to their families.

Ten Matches attended a performance of the Nutcracker at Cumberland County College. Highlights included a tour of backstage at the ballet, seeing the props, learning about the makeup and costumes, and watching the dancers warm up. Each "Little" received a small nutcracker as a memento of the day,

Thank you to all who contributed to making Christmas special for our Littles and their families. A special thanks to: Kathy Valla, her church, Cumberland County Board of Realtors, Denise Jackson, Becky Armato, First United Methodist Church, Calvin Smith, Aldo Falasca, Michele Lugiano, also thanks to: Larry's II Restaurant & Patrons, The Vineland Regional Dance Company, The Fitness Connection & Members, Our Lady Of Mercy Academy, Alex Kaganzev, Sweet Peas, Magnolia Hill Studio, American Eagle, Anne Feinstein, Vineland High School Interact Club, Shiloh Baptist Church, Sue Munafu, Maureen Ellis & Family, Mt. Pisgah Methodist Church, Salem Friends Meeting House, and the Cumberland County Bar Association.

*The 2013 Little Moments schedule is:*

*Wednesday, February 6*  
*Wednesday, March 6*  
*Wednesday, April 3*  
*Wednesday, May 1*  
*Wednesday, June 5*  
*Wednesday, August 7*  
*Wednesday, September 4*  
*Wednesday, October 2*  
*Wednesday, December 4*

***Rise & Shine Breakfast***  
***Wednesday, November 6***

*The Little Moments Sessions are hosted at:*  
***BBBS Agency, 1944 E. Landis Ave., Vineland, NJ 08361***  
***12:15 – 1:15 PM***

***Lunch is provided by Larry's II***

***Please call Cherell Eutzy at 856.692.0916 to RSVP***

## March 13, 2013... Save the Date!

March 13, 2013 is the date of the third annual Financial Seminar for the benefit of BBBS.

Featured speakers will be announced soon. This year's seminar will feature opening remarks from David R. Kotok, Chairman and Chief Investment Officer of Cumberland Advisors.

The seminar will take place at the New Jersey Motorsports Park. To place a reservation or learn more about the Financial Seminar, visit [www.bbbsfinancialseminar.com](http://www.bbbsfinancialseminar.com) or call our office at 856-692-0916.

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## World Run Day Benefits BBBS at R.M. Bacon School



Congratulations to Big Sister Kelly Fallows and the entire school and staff of R. M. Bacon School in Millville for their highly successful "World Run Day" held on November 12, 2012. Kelly, a teacher at R. M. Bacon School, organized this fundraiser and got her entire school involved. In preparation for the event the school set up a track on the playground and students sought individual sponsors. On "World Run Day" the students and staff walked and ran around the track for almost an hour. The students raised an awesome \$771.00 for Big Brothers Big Sisters. The thirty three students that raised more than \$15, won a Big Brothers Big Sisters t-shirt. The t-shirts were awarded on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the R.M. Bacon School.

## Your Used Clothing Can Change the Lives of Young Children

Donations of used clothing, household items, books, shoes and toys are used to help fund the work of Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs. Young children in the surrounding area will benefit from the programs, which have a direct impact on your community. Youth that participate in our programs are less likely to skip school, use illegal drugs or alcohol, get along better with their families and are getting better grades in science, reading and math.

We pick up the donations right at your home. In addition there are bins at the agency, Shoprite @ Lincoln & Landis Avenues in Vineland and in Salem County at Bradway's Market.

We accept:

- Used Clothing and shoes and accessories
- Linens and curtains
- Books
- Small toys and games
- Small household items

If you have any questions or want to schedule a pick up, contact us at 1-877-336-8828; Email: [schedule@bbbsmbp.org](mailto:schedule@bbbsmbp.org); Web: [www.njpickup.org](http://www.njpickup.org)



## January is National Mentoring Month

On December 31, 2012, President Barack Obama proclaimed January as National Mentoring Month.

National Mentoring Month celebrates mentoring and the positive effects mentoring has on young lives. The goals of National Mentoring month are to raise awareness of mentoring, recruit mentors, and promote organizational support of mentoring.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network. Partnering with parents/guardians, schools, corporations and others in the community, Big Brothers Big Sisters carefully pairs children ("Littles") with screened volunteer mentors ("Bigs") and monitors and supports these one-to-one mentoring matches in building safe, enduring relationships.

The first-ever Big Brothers Big Sisters Youth Outcomes Summary, released in 2012, substantiates that its mentoring programs have proven, positive academic, socio-emotional and behavioral outcomes for youth in areas linked to high school graduation, avoidance of juvenile delinquency and college or job readiness.

As part of celebrating National Mentoring Month, January 17 is designated as Thank Your Mentor Day. On this day, individuals are encouraged to thank and honor their mentors. This can be done by posting an on-line tribute or sending a thank you card. Visit [www.nationalmentoringmonth.org](http://www.nationalmentoringmonth.org) for ideas on how to honor your mentors.

Big Brothers Big Sisters recently launched a "Reunite Now!" campaign encouraging former Bigs and Littles to post stories about their times together. This is an opportunity to reconnect and become involved with the organization again. Information about Reunite Now! is available at [www.reuniteknow.org](http://www.reuniteknow.org).

To be a mentor, you don't need special skills, just an ability to listen and to offer friendship, guidance and encouragement to a young person. And you'll be amazed by how much you'll get out of the experience.

*Congratulations to Little Sister Laria who is matched to Big Sister Kaneisha! She recently entered an essay contest submitting an essay about mentoring and what it means to have a Big Sister. Laria's essay won! Her prize was an opportunity to have dinner with Miss America. She also received a certificate.*

### Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties, Board of Trustees

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# Meet Board Member Peter Capizola



This month's spotlight is on Board Member, Peter Capizola. Pete's involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters began over five years ago when fellow banker and Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Member, Cosmo Giovinazzi, invited Pete to attend The Big Night Wine Tasting and the annual Rise and Shine breakfast.

A Vineland native, Pete graduated from Vineland High School and Cumberland College. He then attended the American Institute of Banking. Pete started with Newfield National Bank 38 years ago, and except for a brief time working in local finance he remained at Newfield National Bank where he is currently a Senior Vice President.

Pete is very involved in the community serving on the Board of Directors of the Vineland Chamber of Commerce, President and founding member of the Italian American Benevolent Association, and volunteering for the Vineland Junior

Football League. In the past he served on the Board of the YMCA and volunteered for the American Heart Association. Pete was recognized for his community spirit in 2006 when the Sicilian American Club awarded him their Spirit of Achievement award, and in 2011 when Saint Augustine Prep recognized Pete with the Gregor Mendel Award.

Pete is married, has one daughter and son-in-law and a nine-year-old grandson who plays in the Vineland Junior Football League. In his spare time, Pete loves to play golf as much as possible.

For Pete, the best part of his involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters is seeing how the Bigs help the Littles through guidance and friendship.

## Spotlight Match

The High School Mentoring Program at Johnstone Elementary School meets once a week with Vineland High School students mentoring students from Johnstone. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland & Salem Counties started High School Mentoring with these two schools over 11 years ago, and it is still going strong. This year we have a great group of Bigs and Littles with quite a few Big Brother/Little Brother matches. The elementary boys love having a high school Big Brother spend time with them each week.

High School matches are typically much shorter than adult matches. Big Brothers Big Sisters makes great efforts to ensure that the matches can last as long as possible by matching high school students early in their high school careers. Big Brothers Carlos was a high school freshman when he was matched with Little Brother Ricardo. Carlos is now a high school Junior and still matched with Ricardo. The match closed for a while when Carlos moved, but we were happy to reunite the match when the Big Brother returned. Ricardo couldn't have been happier to have Carlos back in his life. They talk and color together, as Ricardo loves art. Ricardo benefits so much from having a Big Brother like Carlos to give him the attention and care that he needs.



Ricardo and Carlos enjoying some quiet time together

*The Big Night Wine Tasting and auction is May 10 this year. Plan to join us for great food, marvelous wines and great fun, all for the benefit of Big Brother Big Sisters. Let us know if you have a donation for either the live or the silent auction. We are also looking for event and ad book sponsors.*

## January February Events

Date	Event
January	National Mentoring Month
13-Jan	Hancock House Massacre Program - Hancock House in Salem County
19-Jan	Pinelands Hike at Batso Village
21-Jan	Martin Luther King Jr Day and Inauguration Day
26-Jan	Hot Peas 'n Butter at the Levoy - \$12
27-Jan	Acrobats of Cirque-Tacular at the Landis Theater - \$12
February	Black History Month
17-Feb	Cumberland College Jazz showcase - Free!
Everyday	Cape May Zoo - Free! Winter Hours 10am - 3:45pm

## January February Match Anniversaries

<u>Little</u>		<u>Big</u>	<u>Years Matched</u>	<u>Little</u>		<u>Big</u>	<u>Years Matched</u>
Mira	and	Megan	7 years	Malaysia	and	Elizabeth	1 year
Charisma	and	Arianne	6 years	Sirenia	and	Jessica	1 year
Niyah	and	Dawn	6 years	Julaika	and	Christine	1 year
Daniel	and	Richard	6 years	Tayron	and	John	1 year
Bianca	and	Arlene	5 years	Lacey	and	Jessica	1 year
Monica	and	Tabitha	4 years	Cristal	and	Guadalupe	1 year
Briana	and	Syeda	4 years	Jacob	and	Nina	1 year
Aleyzia	and	Carol	4 years	Trinity	and	Lisa	1 year
ShaMier	and	Joanna	3 years	Monserate	and	Jarlene	1 year
Tyheim	and	John	3 years	Tah-j	and	Thaisha	1 year
Karli	and	Valerie	3 years	Julian	and	Felix	1 year
Camilla	and	Nina	2 years	Amanda	and	Kiley	1 year
Hannyah	and	Jennifer	2 years	Jaime	and	Orlando	1 year
Diamond	and	Antoinette	2 years	Neal	and	Dalton	1 year
J'Quan	and	David	2 years	Michell	and	Fallon	1 year
Joseph	and	Steven	2 years				
Marcus	and	Kevin	2 years				

## Congratulations to our New Matches

<u>Little</u>		<u>Big</u>	<u>Little</u>		<u>Big</u>	<u>Little</u>		<u>Big</u>
Jerry	and	R. Bruce	Violet	and	Roxana	Alexzander	and	William
Lalia	and	Alicia	Kathlynn	and	Lilliana	Ashonay	and	Linda
Harlee	and	Desiree	Tyaisha	and	Logan	Jose	and	Brian
Arianna	and	Shaila	Tyonna	and	Rebecca	Marc	and	Lisa
Tomy	and	Mary	Meredith	and	Rebecca	George	and	Tyler
My'Asia	and	Kasey	Leanna	and	Joselynn	Noah	and	Joseph
Lacey	and	Shelia	Colin	and	Morgan	Michelle	and	Eden
Martasha	and	Jessica	Tyaira	and	Jessica	Jeremiah	and	Giuliana
Na'Shay	and	Heather	Marquis	and	Lauren	Brett	and	Zachary
Bruce	and	Michael	Arianna	and	Nina	Kameron	and	Brandon
Daisy	and	Aubry	William	and	Grant	Xavier	and	Samantha
Morgan	and	Jessica	Daniel	and	George	Anthony	and	Kenneth
			Destiny	and	Bailey	April	and	Shannon