

Pairing job seekers & employers for 68 years.

Strictly Business

Inspiration Award Honorees

This year JEVS honored two very special people with the Inspiration Award, which recognizes program participants who have faced and conquered obstacles, and have reached deep inside and found the strength necessary to achieve.

At the 11th annual Strictly Business event on October 29, 2009, JEVS Human Services acknowledged the special partnership between JEVS and the companies that hire from the agency, as well as two inspirational individuals whose lives have been changed in positive ways upon connecting with a JEVS program.

This year's event raised more than \$174,000—bringing our 11-year total to \$1.7 million. Proceeds fund scholarships that help individuals most in need benefit from JEVS programs, such as skills training at **Orleans Technical Institute**, career counseling and job search assistance at **Career Strategies**, and incentives for clients within our **Workforce Initiatives** programs.



John McNeal

John McNeal (left) is recognized by award sponsor David Gruber of Amper, Politziner and Mattia, LLC. Paralyzed in 1990, John receives daily care services through **JEVS Supports for Independence**, which enable him to live independently and earn a living. His credo is that “the measure of man is not how tall he stands, but how much he is looked up to.”

See page 6 to read more about John's success and positive outlook on life.



Armindel Toledo

Armindel Toledo thanked the more than 500 event attendees for receiving such an important honor, which was presented by award sponsor Bob Cohen of Acme Corrugated Box Company. With the right mix of supports from **JEVS Maximizing Participation Project**, she is successfully balancing a meaningful job and single parenthood of six children, one of whom has a severe disability.

Further details about Armindel's journey will be explored in the Winter 2010 issue of Inside JEVS.

Business Leadership Award Honorees

The JEVS Business Leadership Award honors companies that have developed relationships with JEVS to facilitate hiring and retention of individuals from its various skills training and career management programs. Companies that share JEVS' commitment to employee success on the job are selected in this category.



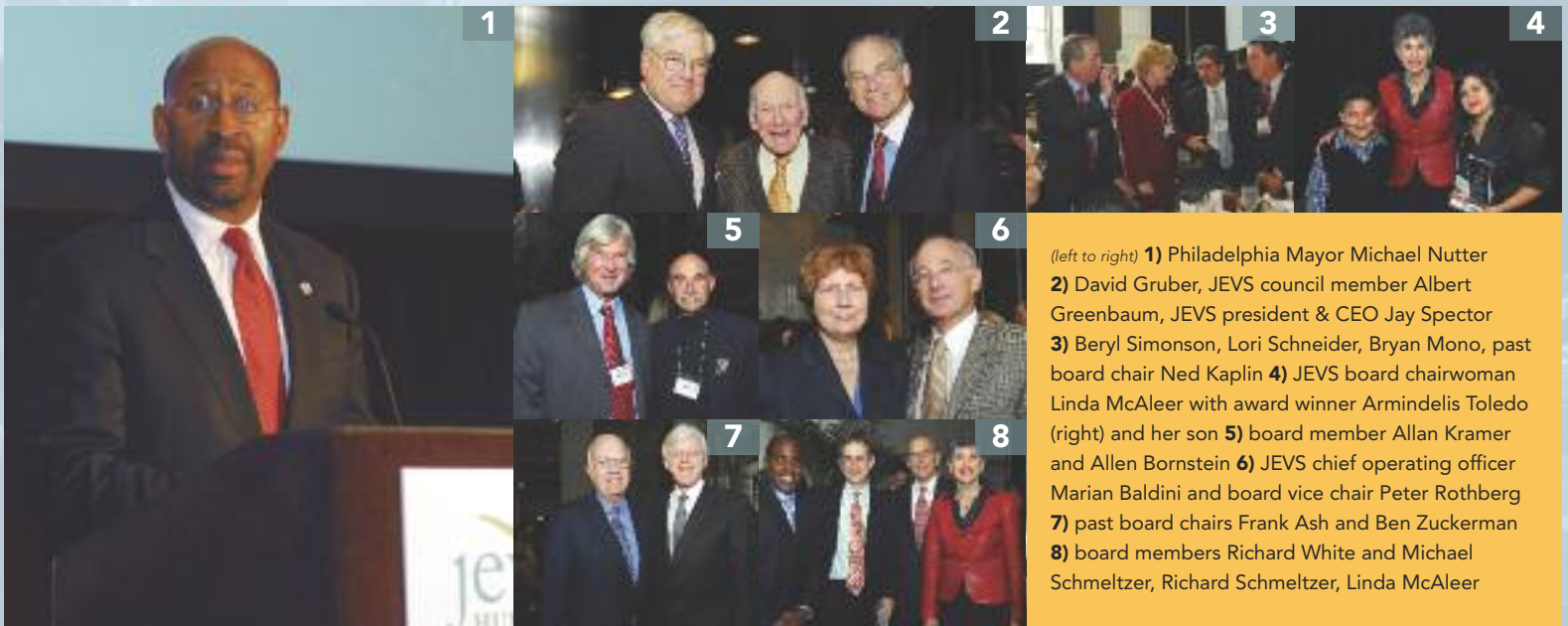
AlliedBarton Security Services

Award sponsors Bert Forman (left) from A.P. Orleans Insurance Agency and Wendy Burke from Walker Benefit Solutions present to AlliedBarton Security Services' Brent O'Bryan and Frederick Clark. The company has hired JEVS clients from the **Northeast EARN Center, Career Strategies** and **Career Solutions for 55+**.



Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Co.

Tracee Hunt (right) from Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company is recognized by award sponsor Mary Kish representing Grainger Industrial Supply. Philly Coke hires from **JEVS' Orleans Technical Institute** and donated several vending machines so that trades students can learn on up-to-date equipment.



(left to right) **1**) Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter **2**) David Gruber, JEVS council member Albert Greenbaum, JEVS president & CEO Jay Spector **3**) Beryl Simonson, Lori Schneider, Bryan Mono, past board chair Ned Kaplin **4**) JEVS board chairwoman Linda McAleer with award winner Armindelis Toledo (right) and her son **5**) board member Allan Kramer and Allen Bornstein **6**) JEVS chief operating officer Marian Baldini and board vice chair Peter Rothberg **7**) past board chairs Frank Ash and Ben Zuckerman **8**) board members Richard White and Michael Schmeltzer, Richard Schmeltzer, Linda McAleer

Strictly Business 2009 Sponsors

Thank you for your generosity

Your support of Strictly Business enables JEVS Human Services to help thousands of people gain skills and education, find stable employment, and move toward self-sufficiency.

DONOR PROFILE Grainger Industrial Supply

In the fall of 2007, Mary Kish, branch manager of the Northeast Philadelphia branch for Grainger Industrial Supply, was delighted to learn of plans to build a new home for **JEVS' Orleans Technical Institute**, which teaches adults a variety of building trade professions.

"They are teaching our future customers," noted Kish, explaining why the Grainger Community Grant Program was so keen in 2007 to award a \$10,000 grant to the trades scholarship program at the "new" Orleans Tech. In 2008, the Grainger Foundation followed this generous grant with a \$15,000 gift to the JEVS Capital Campaign to build a testing classroom at the school.

In 2009, Grainger marked its third consecutive year of generous support in the amount of \$10,000 to Orleans Tech's scholarship program for trades students. In both 2008 and 2009, Grainger was a program sponsor of JEVS annual fund-raising event, Strictly Business. At this year's event, Kish introduced the Business Leadership Award recognizing the Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to Grainger Industrial Supply, Kevin Hungate, district branch services manager, and Mary Kish for their spirit of generosity and commitment to community and education.



JEVS online

Learn more about our inspirational winners by viewing their special video presentations on our web site at www.jevshumanservices.org

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Making Hope Happen for John

Coming Through Adversity to a Life of Helping Others

FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY

John McNeal's accident and subsequent paralysis led to a stronger commitment to helping others including his important work as a disabilities rights advocate. He successfully negotiates the challenges of daily life with in-home supports from JEVs Supports for Independence.

PICTURED: John McNeal is joined in his home by his long-time special friend Gale Hartley (left) and their daughter Nicole L. Fox.



“John is a great role model—in the fight to remain engaged in the community—and as a parent and a friend.”

RITA M. LANDGRAF
DELAWARE SECRETARY
OF HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES

John McNeal was 22 in 1990 when he was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident. Looking back, he remembered that he had his “dream job” as a project manager for a large construction firm, a good income, and “the things that I wanted to have.” But after his accident, something wonderful happened. He came to fully appreciate his life.

“I honestly believe that on that August night my life took a better direction,” said John. He added that his journey through adversity has led to the traits of “being a better listener” and “wanting to help others.”

John recently received the JEVs Inspiration Award, presented to him at the JEVs Strictly Business 2009 annual awards luncheon. John has been supported to employ his own personal attendants by **JEVs Supports for**

Independence (SFI) since 2008 when SFI became the provider for Personal Assistant Services (PAS) in the state of Delaware.

After his injury, John became a disabilities rights activist and was one of a small group who lobbied for PAS in the state of Delaware. As a result of this advocacy, the state of Delaware expanded its in-home supports program to more recipients in 2001. Having an attendant assisting him with his morning and evening routines enabled him to return to school to study human services.

John has worked as a food stamp auditor for the Delaware Division of Social Services since 2005, ensuring that clients are getting the services to which they are entitled. “Anytime that I have an opportunity to give someone a hand up—I am humbled and happy,” he said.

Rita M. Landgraf, secretary of Health and Social Services for the state of Delaware, described John as the “the kind of person who looks at someone’s gifts, rather than their liabilities.” Rita has known John for 10 years. They met as advocates for individuals with disabilities and became friends. “If we didn’t have PAS, many individuals who live in the community would have been unjustly institutionalized,” she commented.

John, who uses a wheelchair to get around, lives by himself in a house that he recently purchased. He is close with his long-time special friend, Gale, whom he has been with for nearly a decade. The two of them lived together for six years, and several years ago they began living separately. John is close with Gale and their three daughters—one of whom is in college, one a high school teacher, and the other a veterinarian.

“John is a great role model—in the fight to remain engaged in the community—and as a parent and a friend,” emphasized Secretary Landgraf. “Family is important to John, but to John everyone is family. I’m honored that he would consider me part of his family.”

 [For more information](#)
Supports for Independence / 267.298.1364
or <http://sfi.jevs.org>