



PHOTOS BY RICHARD W. DIONNE JR.

In a touching moment, Julia Sposato presents an original artwork to Katherine Quinn during a reception at Mrs. Quinn's home Saturday night.

## Quinn reception honors Autism Center founders

*Volunteers and donors join to celebrate launch of autism support center*

The Autism Project-East Bay Support Center got a boost this week, when Katherine Quinn hosted a reception at her Pop-pasquash home on Saturday, Oct. 24. The reception was held to recognize and honor Founding Sponsors who supported the launch of the new center.

Bristol residents John and Helen Andrade were among the guests of honor. The Andrades donated \$10,000 to help kickstart fundraising earlier this year. Mr. Andrade is chairman of the John Andrade Insurance Co.

The autism support center began operating this fall, offering a parents and caregivers support group, a nine-week training series for parents and professionals, and a five-week parent-to-parent training series. Those programs are taking place at Mt. Hope High School and the East Bay Chamber of Commerce offices in Warren. The center is also offering drop-in office hours Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the chamber office.

The support center is a collabo-



Bristol Rotary Club president Jack Dusel (left) chats with Helen and John Andrade during Saturday night's reception.

orative effort supported by The Autism Project of Rhode Island, the Bristol Rotary Charities Foundation, the Bristol Warren School District, Bradley Hospital and the town councils of all three Bristol County communities.

Founding sponsors honored Saturday night were: John and Helen Andrade, David and Judith Dugan, Mark and Jane Matrone,

Louis and Doreen Victorino, Bruce and Jean Cox, David and Barbara Frerichs, Mario Andrade, Christine Brown, Stephanie Bernardo, Mary Parella, Joanne Quinn, Christopher Woodard, Scott Pickering and Jacques de Labry.

To learn more about the center, call Alicia at 401/365-8528, or email AEad@Lifespan.org.

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