

"TO SERVE IS OUR MISSION, TO LOVE IS OUR TRADITION"

Saint Antoine Notes...

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE SAINT ANTOINE COMMUNITY

Summer 2009
Volume 4, Issue 2

SAINT ANTOINE COMMUNITY

A CARELINK PARTNER

Saint Antoine Residence

A NURSING AND
REHABILITATIVE CENTER

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The Villa at Saint Antoine

AN ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY

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Saint Antoine Residence Receives \$200,000 United Way RI Grant

United Way
of Rhode Island



Saint Antoine Residence has been approved for a \$200,000 Skill Up RI/Job Development grant from the United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI). The grant is for the period January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010 and is renewable for each of two additional years, contingent on United Way's ability to raise funds and Saint Antoine's ability to meet certain performance goals.

The UWRI grant is for an enhanced Certified Nursing Assistant Training and Career Laddering program called TEAMhealth2 (train, employ, advance, mentor). The first teamHEALTH program, which has also been funded primarily through a United Way Community Impact Grant, is in its third and final year. The new grant will permit Saint Antoine to continue the teamHEALTH program but in a much more expanded and enhanced way.

During the past three years, Saint Antoine has trained and employed 161 Certified Nursing Assistants. Forty-three more people have taken advantage of the career laddering component and have either graduated or are studying to become nurses.

The expanded TEAMhealth2 program calls for an array of program and funding partners. Saint Antoine's primary partner will be Woonsocket's Family Resources Community Action (FRCA) program and its Rhodes to Success affiliates. Through this affiliation, TEAMhealth2 participants can avail themselves of various community services offered by FRCA such as transportation, rental, and childcare assistance. Another partner will be Quality Partners who will pilot their contextualized literacy program-curriculum, "Reading and Writing to Healthcare Advancement." Key to the new TEAMhealth2 program is enhanced activity in the areas of assessments, case management, and career counseling.

"Tammy Summiel, BSN, RN, and teamHEALTH program director said, "We are so thankful to the United Way for permitting us to be able to continue our successful work in job training and employment in the health sector. With this new grant, we will be able to help more people in more ways in their quest for a brighter future."

www.saintoaine.net

Volunteers of the Year

The Saint Antoine Community is a member of the Rhode Island Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (RIAFSA), an organization of nonprofit facilities which provide residential and support services to seniors.

At RIAFSA's 2009 "Quality of Life" Awards luncheon in May, Saint Antoine Residence volunteer **Doris Boiselle** and Villa Resident **Rev. Joseph Hynes** were among those recognized for outstanding volunteer service to their respective facilities.



Activities Director Jennifer Staton with Saint Antoine Residence Volunteer of the Year Doris Boiselle

Doris Boiselle's abounding energy has earned her the nickname as Saint Antoine's "Energizer Bunny." She can often be seen "bopping" around from this activity to that activity as a Eucharistic Minister, singing with the Choraleers, or assisting with unit activities in unbridled enthusiasm that just doesn't seem to quit. Her smile is contagious and her dedication to the facility and residents is beyond reproach. She is truly "Volunteer of the Year."

Father Joseph Hynes has been a Diocesan priest for over 54 years. His contributions are many and included, prior to his retirement, long service as pastor of St. Theresa parish in Pawtucket. As a Villa resident, he volunteered to serve daily Mass and to lead the daily Rosary, bringing comfort and inspiration to many other residents. His kindness and dry sense of humor are appreciated by all. The staff and residents of the Villa offer Fr. Hynes congratulations and loving thanks.



Reverend Joseph Hynes, Villa resident and volunteer

FOOD, FABULOUS FOOD!

By Sheila Cabral-Sousa



Villa Executive Chef, Jeff Aubin

Jeff Aubin, Executive Chef at the Villa, is deeply focused on his art --- the creation of varied, creative and memorable food. He can be glimpsed moving on his beloved orange clogs between the kitchen, the dining rooms, and gathering spots where food is being served. He paused for a moment recently to share his experiences in his pivotal role.

"I always loved cooking," he said, "even making mud pies with my sister when I was growing up in Burrillville." When he got to Johnson and Wales for formal training, he was married, working full-time as a Food Services Director at a nursing home, and carrying a full-course load. He managed all of this and graduated in the top 10% of his class, earning an Associate's Degree in 365 days versus the usual two years.

Jeff enjoyed success in the private sector, but longed for his own kitchen free of corporate constraints. Five years ago, a friend mentioned an opening at the Villa and he was snapped up. "The Villa is a great place to work," Jeff comments. "The residents are very kind. At Resident Council meetings, there is a good give and take on what additions or changes they would like to see."

Asked for an example of how Jeff balances varied resident wishes, he mentioned that residents requested more comfort food. One of his responses was meatloaf nestled in puff pastry. "Comfort food with a twist," he calls it.

The sound of busy people laughing often can be heard from the kitchen. Jeff points out the low turnover of the staff, many of whom have been here since the Villa opened. His respect and regard for this well-honed team is felt in his voice.

Action-oriented and vibrant, Jeff enjoys time with his son, nine year-old Alix, and his daughter, seven year-old Madison. He loves being outdoors --- rock climbing, kayaking, or cycling. The Villa is fortunate to share a portion of his positive energy.

Cheryl Gomes, BSN, RN receives Altrui 'Service Above Self' Award



From left to right, Executive Director Emeritus Mary Ann Altrui, Distinguished Service Award recipient Cheryl Gomes, and Executive Director Wendy Fagnoli

Cheryl Gomes, BSN, RN is the 2009 recipient of the Mary Ann Altrui Distinguished Service Award. Cheryl has served as a night supervisor at Saint Antoine Residence for more than 18 years and more recently as the Director of Wellness at the VILLA at Saint Antoine. The Altrui Award was established in honor of Mary Ann Altrui who served as executive director of Saint Antoine for 18 years, until her retirement in January of 2007.

The proclamation, establishing the award, reads in part: "This award will be given, each year, to an employee of the Saint Antoine Community who, above all else, has provided exceptional service to residents and colleagues, far exceeding all expectations. Such a person will be viewed as a role model for others to follow. They will discharge their duties with a cheerful heart, giving soul, and service above self."

In presenting the award, Executive Director Wendy Fagnoli noted that "Cheryl is the 'total package.' She is liked and respected by both residents and colleagues, and above all, she gives of herself, unselfishly."

When accepting the award, Cheryl attributed her accomplishments to Jackie Nerbonne, past Director of Nursing Services who passed away this April, as the person who saw in Cheryl great potential. "Jackie hired me and kept giving me new things to do. She always said that she knew I could do it. She was my best 'cheerleader'" said Cheryl.

your will...

**please remember
Saint Antoine
in your WILL and ESTATE.**

Is a Wind Turbine in Saint Antoine's Future?



Saint Antoine has received a \$33,000.00 grant from the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC) to complete the second phase of an assessment study to determine the feasibility of erecting a wind turbine on its property.

The first phase of the assessment process, commonly referred to as a "behind the computer" study, was completed by EAPC Energy Services, LLC, in February of this year. It showed that there were sufficient wind resources to power a wind turbine which could supply all the electrical needs of the Saint Antoine campus.

The RIEDC grant will permit Saint Antoine to erect a meteorological tower to test the validity of the "behind the computer" study's findings. The meteorological tower will be in place for one year to test the wind resources for the four seasons of the year. It will collect wind data for the North Smithfield location and relay it back to a central collection point for compilation and analysis.

"This would be an incredible thing if the feasibility/assessment stage of the project came back positive," noted Executive Director Wendy Fagnoli. "Once in place, a wind turbine could provide us with a potential savings of \$500,000.00 annually for the community," said Ms. Fagnoli.

"It couldn't happen at a better time as the state struggles with its Medicaid program and the negative budget implications that that has for the healthcare system state-wide," continued Ms. Fagnoli.

"We are just at the beginning stages of the wind turbine process. As we go ahead, we will work closely with the town of North Smithfield to obtain all necessary licenses, and permits. If the process proves positive, we then have to raise more money --- a good deal of it --- to erect a wind turbine and to make the project financially feasible," said Ms. Fagnoli.

"We have always said that it's windy up here on the 'hill.' We are about to see if what we believe is really true," concluded Ms. Fagnoli.

Angel's Wings

Jackie Nerbonne, Saint Antoine's beloved Director of Nursing Services for 18 years, passed away just before graduation took place for the April class of Saint Antoine's Nursing Assistant Training Program.

Jackie was very proud of the Certified Nursing Assistant Training and Career Laddering Program, known as teamHEALTH (train, employ, advance, and mentor), primarily funded by a three-year United Way of Rhode Island Community Impact Grant, and begun by Jackie some six years earlier. During her tenure as Director of Nurses, Jackie became known as the "great nurturer."

She saw in people certain qualities and provided opportunities that would help people reach their potential, all the while supporting them on their paths to success. So, teamHEALTH served as the perfect vehicle for Jackie's nurturing needs.

So it was with one of the nursing assistants who graduated in April in what may have been one of Jackie's final acts of nurturing, and which surely carries her legacy far into the future. Nineteen year-old James Berthiaume was the last person to join the Nursing Assistant class, after passing all the assessments and interviews, and upon Jackie's high recommendations.

In his junior year, James dropped out of high school to pursue a career as a guitar player, and composer with his own band. He was making a lot of money performing, touring, and recording. When the bottom dropped out of the economy so did James' music career; he found himself under-educated and under-employed. For a time, he made ends meet by working in a grocery store and, as he termed it, other "dead-end" jobs.

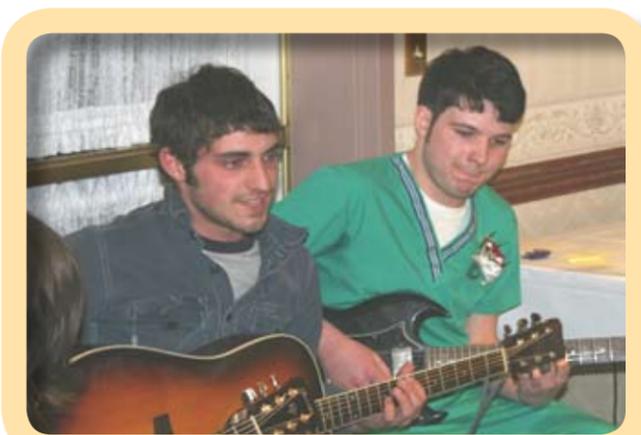
Jackie's lifelong friend and a longtime tenant in her house was James' aunt. Consequently, Jackie knew James since he was a young boy and was certainly aware of his present plight. Since there were nurses in James' family (his father is a Registered Nurse, and his brother is studying to become a nurse), Jackie thought that the CNA class would be a perfect fit for James. And, it certainly proved to be so!

James graduated with high honors and has been working at Saint Antoine where the residents and colleagues, alike, regard him in high esteem. Best of all, however, with Saint Antoine's help, James has entered a GED program to obtain his high school diploma. Also, he wants to enter the career laddering component of teamHEALTH and become a registered nurse just like his father and brother.

Something that Jackie saw in James led this young man to a bright future - one in which James thoroughly enjoys and one in which he can personally and positively impact the lives of others. On graduation night, James once again assembled his band, and performed a piece that he and his band partner, Brian Derosa, had written; Brian lost his grandmother a week earlier and she, too, was a nurturing influence. So together, they wrote a song commemorating two important people in their lives --- people who had been sent to earth to do good, earning their "Angel's Wings" and now finding their way back home.

Angel's Wings

*"When you get your angel's wings,
I hope you can find your way back home.
You found your way back home."*



CNA graduate James Berthiaume and fellow-guitar player Brian Derosa perform their new song, "Angel's Wings" written in memory of Jackie Nerbonne.



Saint Antoine Notes...

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*“To serve is our mission,
to love is our tradition”*



The Villa at Saint Antoine
invites you to join us for...

Concerts in the Courtyard



Tuesday, July 7th at 7 p.m.

FEATURING:
Providence Brigade Band

Tuesday, July 21nd at 7 p.m.

FEATURING:
Jesse Fontaine Quartet

Tuesday, August 4th at 7 p.m.

FEATURING:
Frank Castle & Dixie Kings

Tuesday, August 18th at 7 p.m.

FEATURING:
Avenue A

*light refreshments
will be served*

Summer Notes

This combination of music in the Vila's lovely courtyard on summer evenings has proven to be a consistent draw. The public is welcome. Bring a chair!

Open House

The Villa welcomes visitors by appointment any time. In addition, Open Houses will be held on Fridays in June and July (except for the 3rd of July) from 2 to 5 pm. Tours and refreshments will be offered.

Annual Golf Tournament

The Annual Golf Tournament to raise money for nursing scholarships will be held at Kirkbrae Country Club on Monday, August 24th. Sponsorships are available. Please call Mario Macera at 401.767-3500, ext.110 for more information.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

“Saint Antoine Notes...” is published quarterly for families friends, residents, staff, and others interested in the work of the St. Antoine community by the:

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