



## Wheatfield Commons Slated for Fall Opening

**W**heatfield Commons, a DePaul Senior Living Community in North Tonawanda, New York, is on schedule to open and welcome new residents in the fall of 2017. Stop into the newly-opened sales office to learn more about DePaul's newest senior living community, offering both assisted living and memory care accommodations.

Wheatfield Commons will provide 55,000 square feet of gracious, single-floor living in a well-appointed setting. A covered front porch will greet residents and visitors as they enter a warm and inviting community which will feature spacious, furnished suites with a choice of floor plan, fully-equipped bathrooms and individually controlled heat and air conditioning.



Close to shopping, restaurants and places of worship, Wheatfield Commons is nestled in a park-like suburban setting with inviting grounds and courtyards. Three nutritious meals a day, assistance with the activities of daily living; physician, podiatry and convenient pharmacy delivery services and medication management will be provided on-site. Weekly housekeeping, personal laundry and linen services, free Wi-Fi and the option for telephone and cable TV hook-up will also be available.

Residents will be able to take advantage of a full schedule of activities, social events, outings and worship services. Transportation, case management and linkages to community support services will be available as needed.

"At Wheatfield Commons, we will provide the highest quality of care in a supportive atmosphere," said Administrator Kathy Hyland. "We will strive to enhance each resident's quality of life by providing engaging activities, a supportive and caring

staff and personal care services that promote independence and dignity."

Wheatfield Commons will provide seniors a lifestyle for their future and offer all-inclusive rates. For more information, visit the sales office at 3920 Forest Parkway in North Tonawanda or contact Administrator Kathy Hyland or Marketing Director John Tomes at (716) 475-7600 or via email at [wheatfieldinfo@depaul.org](mailto:wheatfieldinfo@depaul.org). Visit [www.depaul.org/locations/wheatfield-commons/](http://www.depaul.org/locations/wheatfield-commons/) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/wheatfieldcommons/](http://www.facebook.com/wheatfieldcommons/).



Welcoming living areas with fireplaces and beautifully decorated dining areas are all part of an accommodating, enriching atmosphere where residents will receive the highest quality services and care. A cozy family dining room will be available for private use and special occasions. An oversized Jacuzzi-style soaking tub in the spa room and individual mailboxes will also be provided.

# DePaul Expanding to Meet Increasing Needs

DePaul is increasing its ability to serve even more people in need with new projects in the works for affordable housing and supported housing across New York state. The three new up-and-coming Supported-Single Room Occupancy (SP-SRO) Programs will provide permanent housing where residents can access the support services they need to live successfully in the community.

DePaul is preparing for an October opening for the Joseph L. Allen Apartments, a new three-story, 52,500 square foot community which will feature 51 studio, one- and two-bedroom mid-market apartments in Schenectady. In addition, DePaul has broken ground on the Upper Falls Square Apartments, two multi-story buildings with 150 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments which will provide affordable and supportive housing in Rochester. Construction continues on Packet Boat Landing in Lockport featuring 60 one-bedroom mid-market apartments.



**Joseph L. Allen Apartments  
Schenectady, NY**

All three communities will feature apartments with fully-equipped kitchens with a range/refrigerator and microwave, wall-mounted televisions including basic cable service, and in-unit storage. Heat, air conditioning, hot water and electric are included in the rent and community laundry facilities are available for tenants at no cost. Tenants will have access to a computer lab with Wi-Fi access throughout the buildings, community rooms and lounges. The buildings are 100 percent smoke-free. There will be designated smoking areas provided outdoors.

Applications for new tenants at the Joseph L. Allen Apartments have begun being accepted with an October opening planned. A spring 2018 opening is estimated for Packet Boat Landing. Construction on the Upper Falls Square Apartments is expected to be complete in the fall of 2018.



**Upper Falls Square Apartments  
Rochester, NY**



**Packet Boat Landing Apartments  
Lockport, NY**

## Making Their Voices Heard

DePaul recently headed to Albany, New York to advocate on behalf of individuals with mental illness. Led by DePaul Recreation Activity Coordinator Austin Pettigrew, several clients of DePaul programs including the Carriage Factory, Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) and Rochester View Apartment Treatment Programs joined a convoy chartered by the Mental Health Association's Creative Wellness Center for the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc.'s "Get on the Bus" Legislative Day. Attendees were briefed on critical legislative initiatives impacting mental health policies. DePaul's clients spoke out in favor of Governor Andrew Cuomo's push for an increase in supported housing beds.

*DePaul resident Hannah Love of the Carriage Factory Apartments participates in a march on the capital during a legislative day in Albany, New York.*



# NCADD-RA Hosts Annual Luncheon

DePaul's National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence - Rochester Area celebrated its 2017 Annual Luncheon on May 24 in Rochester, New York, recognizing the 71st anniversary of NCADD-RA.



Director of the NCADD-RA Jennifer Faringer is pictured here with keynote speaker Bertha K. Madras, Ph.D., a Professor of Psychobiology at Harvard Medical School and former Deputy Director for Demand Reduction in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President.



Director of the NCADD-RA Jennifer Faringer is pictured here with the Charlotte C. Hegedus Community Excellence Award recipient Timothy J. Wiegand, MD, FACMT, FAACT, FASAM. Dr. Wiegand is an Associate Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine, the Director of Toxicology at Strong Memorial Hospital and UR Medicine, as well as Medical Director of Huther Doyle, an addiction services provider in Rochester.



Director of the NCADD-RA Jennifer Faringer is pictured here with ROCovery Fitness, Inc. co-founders Yana Khasper and Sean Smith who accepted the Community Collaboration Award on behalf of the organization which provides peer-led, wellness initiatives aimed at assisting individuals recovering from drug and alcohol addiction in Rochester, New York.



Family Program Coordinator Bridget DeRollo is pictured here with the Helen Guthrie Memorial Youth Advocate of the Year recipient Marcy McClain, MS, ATR, CASAC who was recognized for her work with the Center for Youth Services and the Young Adult Outpatient Program through Westfall Associates.

## NCADD-RA Receives State Funding

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo recently announced several awards to develop non-traditional



addiction services throughout New York State. Of those awards, \$100,000 will go to DePaul's NCADD-RA to develop a Finger Lakes Resource Collaborative.

Governor Cuomo said, "With these and other addiction support programs across the state, we are one step closer to a stronger and healthier New York for all."

The Finger Lakes Resource Collaborative will work to identify and distribute community referral resources to help address substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts that meet localized needs. This collaborative effort will encompass the nine counties that fall within the Finger Lakes Economic Development Region and include a diverse group of stakeholders, including people living in recovery and their families, educators, law enforcement, allied health providers and many others.



## NCADD-RA Press Conference

### Opioid Task Force

Gates Police Chief James VanBrederode spoke at a press conference about opioids at DePaul's NCADD-RA in March.

DePaul's National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (NCADD-RA) collaborated with law enforcement officials and state legislators in hosting a press conference in March to discuss the ongoing opioid crisis in Monroe County, New York.

Area law enforcement spoke about a recent overdose in Gates and the EMS response. New York Senator Joseph Robach and Assemblyman Peter Lawrence discussed what is being done on the legislative front. Jennifer Faringer, Director of NCADD-RA and Chair of the Monroe County Opioid Task Force, shared several of the identified priorities and successes of the multi-sector task force.

# Raising Awareness One Step at a Time

May was Mental Health Awareness Month and clients and staff in DePaul's mental health residential programs worked to help end the stigma by participating in walks across Western New York aimed at changing the way Americans view mental illness.

DePaul Community Services and the DePaul Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) Apartment Treatment Program both sponsored teams in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk in early May in Rochester, New York. The Stigma Stompers, including staff and residents from NOTA, collected donations through a bake sale as well as with a pie-in-the-face fundraiser.

The DePaul Community Services team included residents from Cornerstone, Edgerton Square,



Program Director Deb White gets a pie in the face by NOTA resident Heather M. during a recent NAMIWalks Rochester fundraiser.



Residential Counselor Alexis Szalay and NOTA residents Chris Havens and Steve W. at a NAMI Walk bake sale fundraiser.



Pictured at the NAMIWalks Rochester are (front row) Residential Counselor Ellen Sadler (NOTA), Naheem M. (NOTA), Debra Owen (NOTA), a friend of DePaul, Residential Counselor Ashley Stanley (West Main), (middle row) Danita Forney (NOTA), Residential Assistant Jeanet Hamilton (NOTA), Cindy Morgach (NOTA), Tamaz M. (West Main), Assistant Residence Manager Meagan Licata (West Main), (back row) Gary F. (NOTA), Cameron L. (West Main) and Christopher H. (NOTA).

Halstead Square and Parkside Community Residence-Single Room Occupancy Programs; Lyell and Elmgrove Licensed Congregate Treatment Sites; and NOTA, West Main, Ridgeview Commons, Carriage Factory and Rochester View Apartment Treatment Programs. Together, the two teams raised over \$1,000 for individuals living with psychiatric disorders.

In Buffalo, New York, residents from Seneca Square Community Residence-Single Room Occupancy Program participated in the Restoration Society's 5th Annual Flash Mob in May to increase the public's knowledge and understanding of mental illness and help break the stigma surrounding it.



Pictured here are Seneca Square residents (front row, left to right) Taylor Wolfe, Carol B., Dennis D., (back row, left to right) Donald M., David M., Dean Schiedo and Louis D. at the Restoration Society's 5th Annual Flash Mob in May.

## 13th Annual Salerno Tournament

Players from DePaul, East House and the Finger Lakes DDSO competed in the 13th Annual Brian Salerno Basketball Tournament, in honor of the late Brian Salerno, a longtime supporter of DePaul and a member of its men's basketball league.

"The talent, comradery and teamwork exhibited at the Salerno tournament is a testament to the legacy and commitment of Brian," said Recreation Director Dan Charcholla.

An all-tournament team was selected in addition to an overall MVP. A very special thank you goes out to Noreen Salerno and the Immortal Hoops League



Roger Hendrix (Cornerstone), Marvin Tellier (Community), Jerry Singleton (FL DDSO), Ivory Byron (FL DDSO), Darnell R. (FL DDSO).



Photo by Joe Ripberger

for supporting this undertaking for so many years. Her generous donation truly made this day special for all those involved. Noreen is pictured here with blue team MVPs Miguel F. of DePaul's Cornerstone Community Residence-Single Room Occupancy Program and Sam T. of DePaul's Lyell Road Licensed Congregate Treatment Site.

# Bringing Life into Focus

Photography has helped bring life into focus for Joe Ripperger, a resident of DePaul's Carriage Factory Apartments. Originally from the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward in Rochester, New York, Ripperger, 39, purchased his first point and shoot camera and a roll of Kodak film nearly 20 years ago. Living in an apartment with a friend, Ripperger could not afford posters for his walls, so he decided to make his own!

"I developed a style of photography that would look good in frames as art on my walls," he said. "I had no intention of doing anything with it."

Ripperger attended Bishop Kearney and East High School before graduating from Wilson Magnet High School. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder at the age of 15, Ripperger struggled with depression in high school, becoming very confused, withdrawn and angry.

"I felt like I'd lost control," he said. "I didn't have a grip on reality. I had no direction in life."

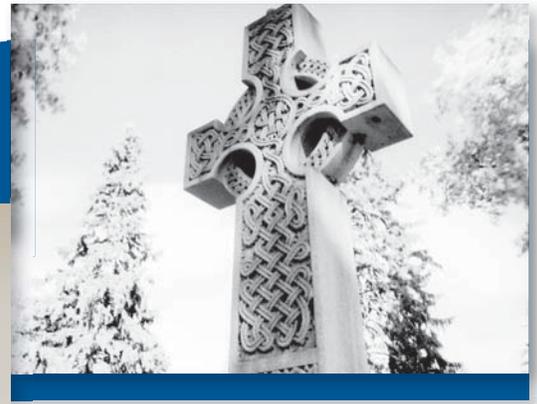
Following graduation, he began working as a security guard at various places. Ripperger said the camera became his friend, giving him a reason to get out into the community. One of his favorite places to take photos was Mount Hope Cemetery. As he began branching out to photographing more cemeteries, Ripperger was asked to display some of his work at St. Monica's Church in Rochester. Eventually, Ripperger landed jobs assisting some area photographers including Royal Chamberlain, helping him on shoots, logging film and working with forensic photography.

In the meantime, Ripperger was struggling with substance abuse and symptoms, temporarily receiving services and then leaving when he felt okay.

"Once I realized I was going in cycles, I made a point to get into outpatient treatment," he said.

Seeing his parents growing older, Ripperger started to take his recovery more seriously.

"I wanted to take the worry from their minds," he said.



"I used to walk two miles to detox at Strong Memorial Hospital, I was so serious about it."

Ripperger has been sober for four years and hasn't smoked cigarettes in six years. He first came to DePaul at the age of 30, moving into the Lyell Road Licensed Congregate Treatment Site.

"It forced me to not be so isolated," he said. "I liked the community feel."

While at Lyell Road, Ripperger upgraded to a digital camera and started to take more pictures than ever. He began observing other photographers' work, taking classes and developing an interest in sports photography.

Over the years, Ripperger also lived at DePaul's West Main Street Apartment Treatment Program and what was the Shelter Cove Community Residence in Churchville before arriving at the Carriage Factory Apartments. He's found balance through the help he receives living at DePaul and by managing his medications. Kelsey Reidosh, Assistant Manager at the Carriage Factory Apartments, has worked with Ripperger since he lived at Shelter Cove.

"Joe doesn't attend any event without his camera," she said. "He is constantly taking pictures. He enjoys sharing his photos with others, and likes to explain how he got his end product. Photography

has helped Joe grow to be more independent, and has boosted his confidence tremendously."

When he feels complacent, stuck or in need of inspiration, he takes a photography class, so he's constantly learning. The hobby has also helped him learn to take criticism constructively rather than personally, and has helped him build confidence and meet new people.

"I've gained more control, I'm setting more expectations for myself instead of coasting, I'm capable of making more concrete plans and following through on them," he said. "The photography showed me a new angle on life. You're just constantly evolving."



# Comfort Companions



Benny Paige, Hickory Village Memory Care – Hickory, North Carolina



Eva Briggs, Twelve Oaks – Mt. Airy, North Carolina

## *a Joy For All*

and sensors that respond to petting and hugs with familiar pet-like sounds and actions.

Stacie Major, Administrator at Glenwell, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Cheektowaga, New York, said it's wonderful to watch the joy the cat brings to seniors with Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

"I've watched it transform a resident's mood," she said. "Residents can interact with the cat as if it were real. The more they pet the cat, the more it purrs or even falls asleep on the resident's lap. The smiles, laughs and calming effect it has brought to some of the residents is priceless."

New York Regional Director Tanya MacNaughton said she's even noticed an increase in verbal communication, calmness and sense of purpose when residents are interacting with the Joy For All companions.

Several of the memory care units at DePaul Senior Living Communities in New York, North Carolina and South Carolina recently received special companions designed to bring comfort, companionship and fun to seniors. Joy For All Pets made by Hasbro feature realistic fur



## In Bloom with DePaul Seniors

DePaul seniors are enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of spring with crafts, community outings and gardening activities!



Students from Roberts Wesleyan College recently delivered colorful flowers to residents at Westwood Commons in North Chili, New York. Pictured here is Roberts Wesleyan senior Brandon Hummer with residents Virginia Lockridge and Alice Brenkus.



Seniors at Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina created homemade bird feeders using pinecones, peanut butter and bird seed. Pictured here is Twelve Oaks resident Jim Moore.

Residents at Woodcrest Commons, in Henrietta, New York got a close-up view of birds of prey including raptors, vultures and bald eagles during a recent visit to Wild Wings in Mendon Ponds Park. Pictured here is resident Kathy Hart.



Dayspring of Wallace in Wallace, North Carolina, flexed their green thumbs with a gardening therapy activity. Pictured here is resident Mary Nye with potted flowers.



# Welcoming New Board Members

Please help DePaul in welcoming Adam Jones and Michael Williams to the DePaul Adult Care Communities Board of Directors.

Jones is a Home Mortgage Consultant for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. A 2012 graduate of the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York. Jones has worked for various financial institutions including MassMutual Buffalo and Citizens Bank.



Adam Jones



Michael Williams

A Certified Public Accountant, Williams is Chief Financial Officer at IEC Electronics Corp. A graduate of the University of Rochester's Simon School of Business, Williams worked at Bausch & Lomb, Inc. for over 15 years, advancing to VP of Finance and Comptroller of the Global Vision Care Business.

"The support of mental health and adult care is something I have always wanted to learn more about, especially with the increased needs of today," Williams said. "With my financial experience, I feel I can significantly contribute but also learn. I am really excited to join the DePaul Board."

# Never Forget the Remember Garden

In May, DePaul staff, clients and volunteers pitched in to spruce up the Remember Garden in Rochester, New York's Highland Park. The Remember Garden is a living memorial to those who died while institutionalized over a century ago at the Monroe County Insane Asylum, Almshouse and Penitentiary, the 700 unnamed graves that were discovered at Highland Park, and the strides that have been made to erase stigma surrounding mental illness.



*(Front row) Activity Coordinator Laurrene Lavicoire, Michelle McNair (Cornerstone), Cindy Morgach (NOTA), Mary D. (Cornerstone) and Patricia F. (Cornerstone), Activity Coordinator Austin Pettigrew, Regina (East House staff), (back row) Craig Smith (NOTA) and Shane Vann (Cornerstone).*



*A special shout out to DePaul Maintenance staff Mike Appleton (Carriage Factory) and John Vespa (Trolley Station) for their extra efforts staining the pergolas and benches!*

Clean-up efforts began with residents from several of DePaul's mental health residential programs raking leaves, pulling weeds and edging the beds. DePaul staff, along with help from volunteers from Skillsoft through the United Way of Greater Rochester's Day of Caring, visited the following week to put the finishing touches on the garden before the Lilac Festival!

"I continue to be grateful every year for the support and volunteer efforts of people wanting to recognize and pay tribute to

those individuals that are buried on the grounds of the Remember Garden," said Vice President of DePaul Properties, Gillian Conde. "Through these grassroots efforts we have memorialized those buried and given the community a space for reflection and rest in our beautiful Highland Park."

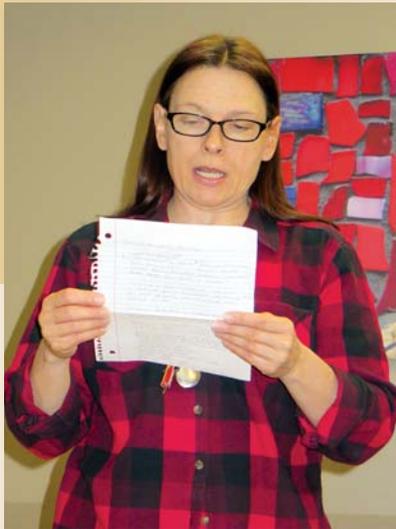


**DePaul Community Services, Inc.**

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## Paying Tribute to Black History



DePaul's Neighborhood of the Arts Apartment Treatment Program in Rochester, New York carried on their tradition of hosting a Black History Month luncheon for residents. Resident Debby Owen chose to highlight the career of African-American actor Morgan Freeman at the February 22 event.

"It's important to recognize Black History Month and it felt good to learn more about Morgan Freeman's career," said Owen.

Following the Black History Month presentations, residents enjoyed fried chicken, greens and beans, cornbread and other soul food offerings to celebrate the occasion.

## DePaul Gives Thanks

Our sincerest thanks to the KeyBank Foundation for their grant to DePaul WorkGuide allowing DePaul to assist more people in finding and retaining gainful employment. WorkGuide placed approximately 100 people in competitive employment and had relationships with over 100 Rochester area employers in 2016.



Mark H. Fuller – President  
Marcia Dlutek – Editor

Amy Cavalier – Copywriter  
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DePaul is a not-for-profit organization that provides senior living residential services, mental health residential and support programs, addiction prevention and support services, vocational services and affordable housing. To receive DePaul Details electronically, please provide your name and e-mail address to Monica Bulger at [mbulger@depaul.org](mailto:mbulger@depaul.org) in DePaul's Communications Department.

Please direct comments to the Communications Department at [communications@depaul.org](mailto:communications@depaul.org) or call (585) 426-8000. Visit our website at [www.depaul.org](http://www.depaul.org).

