

Health & Homecare NEWS

Visiting Nurse & HEALTH SERVICES OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

Winter 2010

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Comfort of Home, Dedication to Care: A Caring Hand, LLC



A Caring Hand, an affiliate of Visiting Nurse and Health Services of Connecticut, provides private duty services 24 hours a day 7 days a week to keep elders healthy, active and at home. A Caring Hand provides Companions, Homemakers, Personal Care Attendants, as well as Live-in Caregivers. Services for all clients are customized to the needs of the client and the client's family. Activities provided through A Caring Hand can range from grocery shopping or taking a client to a doctor's appointment, to intensive hands-on care such as bathing and dressing. A Caring Hand has high standards for employment; prospective employees go through a rigorous interview and orientation process to ensure that all field staff assisting clients reflect the philosophy of genuine compassion and dedication to quality care. In 2007, A Caring Hand grew from 40 employees to over 100 providing over 96,000 hours of service. Within this past year of 2008, our employee base grew to an average of 147 active employees providing 158,100 hours of service to over 384 clients located in over 25 towns within the state of Connecticut. With the significant growth of our agency this past year, our office staff needed to grow as well. This year, we added another scheduler to assist with homemaker and companion services as well as a Director of Sales to ensure that all communities are well-served in the services provided and the standards to which we strive to deliver these services to our clients.



A Caring Hand staff left to right:
Kathleen Yost, Pat Kent, Lei Somma,
Amy Mosher, Lauri Collins, Sandy Moquin

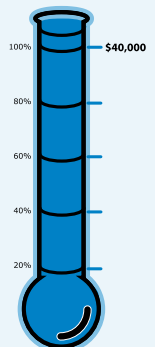
For more information on A Caring Hand visit the website at www.acaringhand.com or call 860-643-1623.



VNHSC was named as Top 500 Home Health Care Provider of 2009 HomeCare Elite™, a compilation of the top performing home health agencies in the United States. This annual review identifies the Top 25 percent of agencies and further highlights the top 100 and top 500 agencies overall. Winners are ranked by an analysis of performance measures in quality outcomes, quality improvement and financial performance.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We are pleased to announce that we have reached our 2009 Annual Appeal goal of \$40,000. The generosity of caring friends like you has supported our important work in countless ways and has helped to ensure that home care, hospice and community health programs are available to all who need them.



Upcoming FREE Programs

February 1, 2010 at 11:00 AM

Patty O'Brian, Director of the Alzheimer's Association North Central Connecticut, will present "Memory Loss, When to Worry" at Community Baptist Church, 585 East Center Street, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 643-0537.

February 9, 2010 at 1:00 PM

Lynn Kisner, RN, WOCN with VNHSC will present "Skin Care and Health" at the Ellington Senior Center, 16 Church Street, Ellington, CT. Contact (860) 870-3133.

February 11, 2010 at 1:30 PM

Joanne Cohen, MSW, LCSW with VNHSC will present "Coping with Aging and Declining Independence" at The Arbors, 403 West Center Street, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 533-9517.

February 8, 2010 at 11:15 AM

Patty O'Brian, Director of the Alzheimer's Association North Central Connecticut, will present "Memory Loss, When to Worry" at the South Windsor Senior Center, 150 Nevers Road, South Windsor, CT. Contact (860) 648-6361.

February 25, 2010 at 1:00 PM

Maryla Underwood, RN, Telehealth Services Coordinator will present "Coping with Cardiac Disease" at the Manchester Senior Center, 549 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT. (860) 647-3211.

March 8, 2010 at 11:15 AM

Linda Bissell, RPT, Director of Rehabilitation Services at VNHSC and Amy Finke of Sugar Hill Builders will present "Independent Living Home Modifications and Is Your Home Safe" at the South Windsor Senior Center, 150 Nevers Road, South Windsor, CT. Contact (860) 648-6361.

March 16, 2010 at 11:00 AM

Linda Bissell, RPT, Director of Rehabilitation Services at VNHSC, will present "Fall Prevention" at Community Baptist Church, 585 East Center Street, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 643-0537.

March 25, 2010 at 1:00 PM

Holly Gibson, MS, C.P.E. with VNHSC, will present "Beating the Blues" at Manchester Senior Center, 549 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 647-3211.

April 8, 2010 at 1:30 PM

Patty O'Brian, Director of the Alzheimer's Association North Central Connecticut, will present "Brain Power" at The Arbors, 403 West Center Street, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 533-9517.

April 12, 2010 at 11:15 AM

Karen Tullson, RPT with VNHSC, will present "How's Your Balance, Exercises and Assistive Devices" at South Windsor Senior Center, 150 Nevers Road, South Windsor, CT. Contact (860) 648-6361.

April 15, 2010 at 10:00 AM

Holly Gibson, MS, C.P.E. with VNHSC, will present "Aroma Therapy" at Manchester Senior Center, 549 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT. Contact (860) 647-3211.

April 16, 2010 at 10:00 AM

Melissa Talamini, RN, CDE with VNHSC, will present "Diabetes and Healthy Eating" at East Hartford South End Senior Center, 70 Canterbury Street, East Hartford, CT. Contact (860) 569-5659.

Holly Gibson Honored by the Hartford Business Journal As a 2009 Health Care Hero



Holly Gibson, Bereavement Coordinator for VNHSC, was recognized as a 2009 Health Care Hero in the health care staff category by Hartford Business Journal. This award serves to recognize outstanding achievements in the health care field. The Health Care Heroes Award recipients must be individuals or organizations operating or based in the 61 towns of central Connecticut and be impacting the quality of health care on a local or regional level.

Gibson is one of six to receive this prestigious award in 2009. Holly left her corporate career to follow her passion of hospice after watching her mother care for her ill grandparents. "So much has changed in the field of health care over this last year but the care and commitment of these honorees remains unshaken," said Gail Lebert, publisher of Hartford Business Journal. "We look forward to giving praise to these six winners who have a passion for what they do."



The award luncheon took place on Thursday, January 28 at the Connecticut Convention Center.

VNHSC Helps Families in Need by Adopting Two Families Through Hockanum Valley Community Council

This year, 493 families in Vernon alone were in need of a holiday meal. VNHSC joined the community to help by adopting two families in need. In the month of December, VNHSC collected items from frozen turkeys to fresh fruit to provide a meal for our families. With the help of many caring individuals, Hockanum Valley Community Council fed 597 families for this holiday season. For more information about the services Hockanum Community Council provides visit them online at www.hvcchelps.org.



Todd Rose (right), President of VNHSC presents a check for \$600 to David Engelson of HCC. This money was raised from VNHSC's "dress down Fridays" in 2009.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, or be removed from our mailing list, please email us at info@vnhsc.org

Tree of Life Celebration

More than 100 people gathered at the Vernon Circle on Sunday evening, December 6th to remember loved ones at the second annual "Hospice Tree of Life" ceremony. Dianne Welch, hospice director stated, "this special event allows friends and family to memorialize a loved one in a setting soon to be illuminated by the warm glow of lights and the camaraderie of those gathered." Ryan Cable and May Lei Ambeau turned on the lights this year in memory of their grandfather, Glenn Cable, who died earlier this year on hospice service.

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| Mary Ahearn | Joseph Derosier | Joe Kaskey | Elaine Meehan | Granpa Robert Rogerson |
| Patty Albrecht | Harvey Desruisseaux | John Keating | Helen Meehan | Great Grampa R. Rogerson |
| Neal P. Anderson | Irene Dimlow* | Constance Kelly | Richard Meehan | Robert B. Rogerson* |
| Mary & John Andrejski | Mary L. Dlugos | Ralph R. Kibbe | Mr. & Mrs. F. Roland Meetze | Henry Rose |
| Ellen Andrews | Olga & Joseph Dobosz | Henry S. Kissman | Emma Merwin | Henry Rounds |
| Arthur Angeli | Pauline Dow* | Mary R. Knox* | Grace Miller | Katherine Rounds |
| Isable D. Arnold | Larry & Harriett Duff | Sarah Kocum | Roy & Judy Miner | Al Routhier |
| S. Robert Arnold | Normand Dulude | Leon Kouyoumjian | Bruce Morgan | Joan Ruddell |
| Tore Askeland | Eugene Dupre | Karen McCabe Krasner* | John J. Morianos, Sr. | Ron Sanborn* |
| Maxwell J. Atwater | Irene Dupre | James P. Kubik | Martha Moriconi | Sigfried G. Santos |
| David Aubin | Ronald (Lou) Easton | John Kulynick | Dorothy Moritz | Rosario Sapienza |
| Jill Auclair | Edward Elder | Tibor Kundermann | Phyllis Muckor | Deborah Sauder |
| Romeo H. Auclair | Francis W. Fagan, Jr. | Elizabeth & Paul Kundermann | Jessie Mulka | Charles Schaeffer |
| Florence E. Augustus | Gertrude S. Farrell | John D. Labelle, Sr. | Carol Mullen | Donald Schambach |
| Madelyn Baker | Gilbert Farrington | Melinda LaBruna | Carl Mundell | Benjamin Schilberg |
| Deane E. Baker, Jr. | Armand Faucher | Gladys M. Lackowskas | Laura Nadeau | Jean M. Schoenborn |
| Thomas Barber* | Jean Faucher | Ebba O. Ladd | Raymond J. Negro, Jr. | Rita D. Schoenborn |
| Carole P. Bardons | Carol S. Fay | Roger LaFlèche | Dr. & Mrs. Luke O'Connor | Agnes Friedrich Schwanke |
| Sharon Barnard | William & Ruth Fiddler | Spiro G. Lano | Laura O'Connor | Florence Scully |
| Dawn Barrett | Eugene & Lottie Finance | Peggy Larkin | Cherryl O'Donnell | Robert C. Scully |
| Donald & Agatha Barrows | Lynn Folger | Edwin Lassman | Alice & Ed O'Neill | Paul & Irma Semel |
| Jean Bartlett* | Lorraine Fortuna | Jennie Lassman | Susan Oney* | Dave Seymour |
| Betty Beebe | Ben & Ruth Forziati | Ernest J. Leblanc | George Opirhory | Dave Seymour |
| Jason Bernier | Paul V. Frasca, Sr.* | Rita Marie Leblanc | Meg Berte Owen | Genevieve Shaheen |
| Georgiana Bidwell | Spence Fraeze | Edmond E. LeDoux | Gladys & Harry Palamar | Joann Ives Shaughnessy |
| Frances L. Billings | Robert Friedrich | Catherine Leitner | Roy S. Palmer, Sr. | Tony & John Shea |
| Jacqueline Bisson | Wayne Paul Fruk | Chester Lemek | Kevin Palmoski | Joseph S. Shemo |
| Lisa Boczar* | Janet Furphey | Donald Leonard* | Josephine & Walter Palmoski | Edward C. Sievers |
| Antoinette & Joseph Bojarski | Charlene Gabry-Muniz | Corrado Lombardo* | Antoinette Pandozzi | Penny Simmers |
| Margaret Boor | Reid Geilich | Nicholas Longo | Edward Paolino | Henry & Nancy Skarin |
| Edward Brace | Olin Gerich | Paul A. Luft | Curino Papa | Howard & Evelyn Skarin |
| Eleanor Brace | Cliff Gibson | Paul James Luft | Dorothy Papa | Mary Ann Sklenar |
| Joey Braun | Mae Gibson | James W. Luft | Paul Papa | Gail Hastings Slicer |
| Donna Bremser | Edith Holcomb Gibson* | David Lyons | Ella Parenchuck | Adeline Smith |
| Joseph Brennan* | Alfonso Giraldo | Edward A. Machnik | Clara Passardi | Robin "Smitty" Smith |
| Jill Brooks | Robert Gleeson | Anthony Magliocco | Agnes Pecorino | Gerry Sommers |
| Terry Brooks | Sophie Gleeson | JoAnne Magliocco | Laurent Pelletier* | Pete Sorensen |
| William "Bill" Brown* | Tom Gleeson | Mark L. Pelouquin | Victor L. Pelouquin | Gilman Soucier* |
| Daniel A. Buccino | David Godek | Alice Marcella | Tony Peracchio | Gilman Soucier, Sr.* |
| Carole Buehler* | Lucile H. Goehring | Frances H. Marcham | Dominic J. "Butch" Peralii* | Peter A. Southwick |
| Roy Burnham | James T. Golden | Stephen C. Marcham* | Laurel Peters | Ed Sperry |
| Nancy M. Burns | Judith A. Golden | Lucia Marchese | John H. Peters, III | Ted St. Onge |
| Glenn P. Cable (Papa) | Paul R. Goodin | Jennifer Marchese | Eleanor & John Phelps | Pam Stanchfield |
| Nancy Cahill | Arthur D. Gorshel | Bernice Martin | Cindy Phelps | Mildred Stannizzi |
| Linda & Jim Caldwell | Judith Arnold Grenier | Donat Picchioni | Donat Picchioni | Helen Starkweather |
| John Campbell | Gertrude Hagedorn | Judy Pike | J. Bruce Pigott | Susan Stein |
| Morgan I. Campbell | Lena Hagenow | Tim Pike | Judy Pike | |
| Richard Campbell | Evelyn Hansen | Edward Pinard | Tim Pike | |
| Arthur Carey, Jr. | Fred P. Hansen | John Platosz | Edward Pinard | |
| Mr. & Mrs. Linder Carlson | Lyman Harding | Emile Plourde | John Platosz | |
| Olga Carney | Lynda Harding | Steven Plourde | Emile Plourde | |
| Yvette Caron | Ernest Harlow | Richard Poucher | Steven Plourde | |
| Bev Cecere | Richard Harper | Carol Powell | Richard Poucher | |
| Joseph Cella, Jr. | Patricia Harris | Diana & Trevor Priesnitz | Shirley B. Mazzetta | |
| Ernest Chapman | Herbert H. Harrison | Frieda Putz | Elvie McCarty | |
| Walter R. Cichon, Sr. | Roberta Hartenstein | Joseph C. Putz | Ralph McCarty | |
| Mark Clarke | Charles Hasson | Dolores Quintanilla | Sharon McCullough | |
| Shirley & Clifton Clarke | Harold Hoar, Sr. | Casimer Rackowski | Carol McGovern | |
| William & Rose Cohen | Donald Hopkins | Jennie Rackowski | Marion McGuire | |
| Joseph Collette* | James Hopkins | Mary Radion | Stephen McGuire | |
| Marie Collette* | Ruth Hopkins | Mrs. Anna Ragozzino | Francis McGurkin | |
| Jacqueline Covey | Michael J. Horn | Muriel Rea | Jane McIntosh | |
| Raymond Covey | Ernest Jacob | Thomas Rea | Francis McNulty | |
| Mr. & Mrs. Lewis E. Covin, Jr. | Elsie Jacobsen | Robert Read | Alice McPadden | |
| Sophie & Frank Cyrkiewicz | Edward Janton* | Harold Redfield | Phyllis McQuade | |
| Fred Dakin | Mary & Alexander Jarzebowski | Marjorie Redfield | Richard Meagher | |
| Charles W. Darling | Edward Jenack | Gertrude Redmer | Robert Meagher | |
| Sarah Dashnaw | Edward D. Johansen* | Fran Ricci | Carmelino Mecca | |
| Robert S. Davies, Sr. | Mary Johnson | Joseph M. Riley | Mary Mecca | |
| George Dayton | Robert & Helen Kahan | George E. Risley* | Nicholas Mecca | |
| Helene Dayton | Louis & Sally Kahn | Perley Robinson | Jeanne Medenhall-Meyer | |
| Gary Deabill | Pauline Kaplan | Gil Rogers, Jr. | Audrey Meehan | |
| Gordon Delisle | Edward & Ellen Kasche | Gil Rogers, Jr. | Beverly Meehan | |
| Phyllis Delisle | Erma Kaskey | | Bob Meehan | |



Pictured L to R: Dianne Welch, Amy Lei Ambeau, Ryan Cable, and Todd Rose

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|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dr. Ronald Stephens | Richard Wilson |
| Patricia Stewart | Ralph Winn, III |
| Fred Stone | Katherine W. Winzler* |
| Michael P. Stone | Magdalena & Louis Wnuk |
| Paul Strawmyre | Robert Wolverson |
| Regina Lombardi Sullivan | Inkham Xayavouthy |
| Robert Swift | Maynoune Xayavouthy |
| Sophia Swift | Mary C. Young |
| Charles Toce | Ron Zgoda |
| Albert Trahan | Bert & Charolette Zucker |
| Alexander Tripp | Ira S. Zuckerman |
| Helen Tripp | American Legion Auxiliary Unit #52 |
| Olive Geraldine Trudeau | Andresen Electrical Services |
| John Tyszka | Bill & Lorraine |
| Norman Utter | "Butch" |
| Iris Vacanti | Cotta Family |
| Linda Vacanti | De Bortoli Family |
| Jeanne Van Horn | Donald |
| Cindy Van Oudenhove | Earl Parker Family |
| Ellie Vitello | Edgar Family |
| John Waggoner | Edward |
| Beverly J. Waldo | Forgotten Souls |
| Audrey Wanegar | Hawrylik Family |
| Everett Wanegar | Hospice Patients |
| Walter Wasielewski | Lorri |
| B. Walter Wecl | North Central Hospice Team |
| Constance Welch | Our Parents |
| Gordon F. Wells | The Hammonds Family |
| Gertrude K. West | The McManaway Family |
| Richard F. West | Toy |
| Marian Wetjen | Vernon Fire Dept. Company #1 |
| Raymond Wetjen | Ville |
| Mary Jane Wilde | |
| Robert Williams | |

*Denotes multiple lights

VNHSC Receives \$5,150 from Swiss Cleaners 6th Annual Hospice Fundraiser



Left to right: Bill Sybert, Vice President of advertising for the Journal Inquirer, Dianne Welch, Director of Hospice for VNHSC, Ken Luginbuhl, Treasurer of Swiss Cleaners, Todd Rose, President and CEO of VNHSC, and Eric Kloter, past president of Swiss Cleaners.

8 Keynote Drive
Vernon, CT 06066

Phone: 860-872-9163
Fax: 860-872-3030

www.vnhsc.org

or current resident

Wine
T A S T I N G

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010

SEVEN IN THE EVENING UNTIL TEN

THE SOCIETY ROOM OF HARTFORD
31 PRATT STREET, HARTFORD, CT

\$49 per ticket. To purchase tickets call 860-870-2304.

Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut is hosting its 5th annual Wine Tasting & Auction to benefit our North Central Hospice & Palliative Care program. 26 years ago Hospice opened its doors with a clear and simple promise to the community: To be companions on life's most difficult journey. To care for the dying—for their bodies, minds, and spirits...and for those who love them. We have kept that promise. Over those years, Hospice & Palliative Care has walked through the last phase of life with thousands of people. We have worked to relieve their suffering, calm their minds, and soothe their spirits, and we have helped their families and friends grieve with comfort, grace and hope. Our commitment to this community continues, and we renew our promise: To help build a community where every day of life matters, and to insist on extraordinary care for all who are nearing their journey's end.

In keeping with our Black & White theme this year, black and white casual attire is requested.

