



Wings of a Dove

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F S T . V I N C E N T N E W H O P E

Vol. 12, Issue 1 • Winter 2010

The Blueberry

By Lee Mehrlich, Liz Seamon and Sam Wade



Day Services loves the Blueberry! St.Vincent New Hope Day Services is grateful for Open Door's donation of the bus affectionately known as Blueberry.

Last summer, Day Services was generously given a very special donation. Open Door replaced its aging fleet and offered to donate two of their well-cared-for units to St.Vincent Hospital and New Hope. We had a special need for such a bus in our Day Service program.

We painted our bus Royal Blue at the request of the participants in our Day Service Program. It is now affectionately known as the "Blueberry." This wonderful gift will assist the Day Services program with ensuring all of the individuals who attend will be able to access the community frequently. Some of the outings it has already been used for have been to transport individuals to Conner Prairie, the library, bowling and the Indianapolis Zoo. **Lee Mehrlich** recently had his first ride on the "Blueberry," going to the Indianapolis Public Library. He said "The color is beautiful and the ride was great." The staff and individuals in Day Services are busy planning future trips as well.

Our blue mini-bus is the standard Ford E-450, Diesel-powered 14-passenger unit typical of all Open Door mini-buses. The bus is very flexible in that a combination of wheelchair/ambulatory seating is available. The vehicle is completely accessible: steps up into the floor

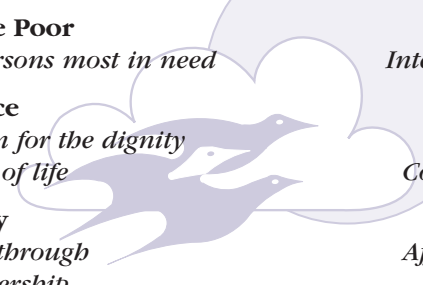
level for ambulatory passengers, and a state-of-the-art Braun lift for wheelchairs.

IndyGo Open Door is an extension of the IndyGo city bus service. Instead of running fixed routes on a regular schedule throughout the city, Open Door service goes into neighborhoods to the address or destination of each passenger, providing curb-to-curb service. Our riders enjoy a variety of outings, such as attending the church of their choice; day services such as Noble, Crossroads, St.Vincent New Hope Day Service, library visits, the zoo, movies....the possibilities are endless. Each rider pays a token amount of the actual cost, \$3 per trip; the commercial equivalent of providing the same service would exceed \$30 per trip.

Since 1994, New Hope has increased its need for Open Door service from just a few rides per week to nearly 20,000 per year, counting all Supported Living, SILP and Group Homes. The staff at Open Door is very accommodating to the needs of individuals New Hope serves.

St.Vincent New Hope and the Day Services Program are extremely grateful to IndyGo for their generous contribution to our program. We are also very thankful for our Transportation Department for providing maintenance and ongoing service for this and all of our vehicles.

The Spirit of Caring is alive at St.Vincent, represented by the three doves of our logo, flying proudly in an integrated formation, depicting the three aspects of holistic healing - body, mind and spirit. We strive to deliver to our patients and families extraordinary patient care every day, with the three doves as our guiding symbol. As a member of Ascension Health and St.Vincent Health, we are called to ...



<p>Service of the Poor <i>Generosity of spirit for persons most in need</i></p>	<p>Wisdom <i>Integrating excellence and stewardship</i></p>
<p>Reverence <i>Respect and compassion for the dignity and diversity of life</i></p>	<p>Creativity <i>Courageous innovation</i></p>
<p>Integrity <i>Inspiring trust through personal leadership</i></p>	<p>Dedication <i>Affirming the hope and joy of our ministry</i></p>

Remembering Our Friends

Anita

By Tanya Willis-Robinson



Anita K. Priser was loved by everyone who knew her. She had an amazing smile and was very high spirited. Stephanie Walkup remembers that she could even smile at you when she was yelling at you. You could not help but admire her sense of humor. She will be missed by her friends, roommates and staff at Arlington; friends at New Hope Day Services; church family and anyone who came in contact with her. One of her favorite phrases was "That's just the way the cookie crumbles." Anita especially loved to watch "The Price is Right," shop at Walmart and go out to eat and do crafts. Anita passed away quietly in her home on Nov. 28, 2009.

Every day is a gift

By Lisa Davis

Have you ever met someone and known right then that your life will never be the same? That was certainly the case when I met **Kate Farley**. To know Kate is to know unconditional love. Her amazing spirit was the first thing I noticed about her. She laughed and smiled openly. We are always teaching the individuals we serve but in the end it was Kate who taught us. She taught love. It didn't matter who you were; she wanted to touch your face and hold your hand. Kate was raised by an incredible family who saw every day with Kate as a gift. Kate was a celebrity. Every time we were in the community people knew her. Her radiant joy naturally drew people to her.

Joan Parker, Kate's mentor for the past five years, shared her thoughts about Kate. "Every day I would get Kate off the bus and she would look at me and light up. I was captured by her smile, which was like a ray of sunshine. She daily reminded me that life is good! Sometimes the busyness and hardships of this life can be distracting, but Kate showed me again and again that life truly is so simple. It's just about choosing to be joyful, to love all of those who surround you, to reach out to others, and to show you care through the touch of your hand. All of these were Kate's attributes and her gifts to give. I believe God brought Kate into my life to teach me His lessons of love and joy.

Kate knew how to remain in the love of God and her joy was complete. Kate shared His love with each life she touched. I feel she truly fulfilled her purpose in this life and now is home in the arms of her Heavenly Father.

Melanie Rau also was a mentor for Kate for four years and remembers, "Every day was special with Kate. I thought of her more as a little sister than a client. We did everything from shopping to going to see concerts together and we even had a song. Our song is called *Little Wonders* by Rob Thomas from the movie "Meet the Robinsons." The lyrics perfectly describe Kate and our amazing friendship. I played the song in the car all the time and I would reach into the backseat and hold her hand. I turned around at each red light and we would just smile at each other. The little things are what I remember the most and how happy she made me feel.

"Our lives are made in these small hours, these little wonders, these twists and turns of fate. Time falls away, but these small hours still remain."

—Rob Thomas



I Love You, Kate

By Katura Ratliff

(Editor's Note: Katura wrote this poem for Kate's parents)

Even though Kate Farley is
dead right now,

she should be my friend

And I saw Kate Farley hold
my hand

(so cute!)

I know that Kate has died
right now

but I really miss her

and I love her too

Smile, smile

I love Kate Farley

She smiles

I love her to pieces-

a lot

She doesn't talk yet-

wait a minute!

Now she can talk!

Right now!

Right?

Cause she's in Heaven with
God!

She's my best friend, you
know

I'm afraid that I miss her a lot

She did a game with me

When Kate was alive,

She didn't have any breathing
technique.

But now, in Heaven,

she doesn't need any oxygen!

She can talk, you know

because she has words

And I miss her a lot

Cute, cute, cute!

I'm sorry that Kate's dead
right now

(this is so sad)

I know that Kate's in Heaven
right now

I know that this is tough for
you right now,

but she's in Heaven right
now

talking to God about me, I
bet

walking and dancing

walking and dancing

are good things to talk about

She's not on oxygen

(that's the important thing)

We loved each other

and Kate held my hand.

I know this is going to be
tough for you, but...

you're going to cry, but...

I know this is tough,

I know this is hard

I'm sad about her dying, but,

the happy stuff-

she's in Heaven right now!

I miss her

I know that Kate Farley is
gone right now,

but the happy part is so
sweet!

She's sitting up with no
oxygen!

Kate Farley knew God before
she died!

Don't you get that?

She loved Jesus in her heart!

(She's an incredible person, I
might add)

She's talking to God

and she's in Heaven right
now!

she's not on oxygen

(that's the important part)

she can sit up by herself

she can talk to God that way

She can talk to God, sitting
up!



Katura Ratliff (left) with her friend, Kate.

Special Needs Seminar

Planning for Your Dependent with Special Needs: Making Their Future More Secure

The workshop "Planning for the Future of Your Child or Dependent with Special Needs" will be held on Tuesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. in St. Vincent New Hope, 8450 N. Payne Road, Suite 300 (Rendu Room). This workshop addresses legal issues, including wills and trusts, special needs trusts and guardianship; financial issues, such as special needs trust funding, Medicaid and SSI; family issues, including Letter of Intent and Communication.

The speaker is Gordon Homes, CFP, Certified Financial Planner, and Senior Financial Services Executive with MetLife. The workshop is free, no reservation is necessary.

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Parents of Children and Other Dependents With Special Needs

You're Invited to Attend a Workshop on . . .

"Planning for the Future of Your Child or Dependent with Special Needs"



Important Issues That Need To Be Addressed:

- Government Benefit Eligibility
- Guardianship and Conservatorship/Guardian Ad Litem
- Financial Security and Funding Options

This workshop will be presented by MetDESK[®] Specialist Gordon F. Homes, Jr.
Email: ghomes@metlife.com Toll free (800) 903-6380 ext. 2005
MetLife's Division of Estate Planning for Special Kids

St. Vincent New Hope - Family Information Night

Date: Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Place: 8450 N. Payne Rd. - Suite 300 –Rendu Room
Indianapolis, IN 46268**

The presentation will run approximately 60 minutes, and there will be plenty of time afterwards to answer your questions.

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In the New Hope Spotlight

By Jay Buethe

Kathy Koning began working at New Hope in August 2000. She started as a behavior consultant working with individuals served by New Hope. Kathy helps individuals with the normal problems and challenges of life. She teaches skills such as assertive communication, relaxation, coping skills, social skills such as getting along with others and problem solving.

Now Kathy supervises eight behavior consultants and carries a small caseload of her own. Kathy became manager of the New Hope Behavior Consultants in May 2007. The Behavior Services Department provides services to children and adults served by St. Vincent New Hope and other residential providers. If all this is not enough to keep her busy, she spends time in the community recruiting for behavior services.

Jay Buethe shines the spotlight on
Kathy Koning, manager, Behavior Services.



Celebrating Mission Moments

Last October, skills trainers **Stella Ogunmakinwa** and **Joshua White** were working at McCollough. Around 1:30 p.m. an individual came to the table for lunch, but instead of sitting down he fell to the floor. Stella and Josh tried to assist him into a chair but he fell to the floor again. Both Stella and Josh knew something was wrong as he failed to get up and wasn't responding to their prompts. Upon checking his vitals it was discovered that he had stopped breathing. Josh called 911 while Stella immediately began administering CPR. Stella and Josh both handled the emergency with tact,

professionalism and compassionate dedication. It is never easy when one is faced with a life-threatening situation such as this one and it really takes a special person to be able to handle it with such skill.

Both Stella and Josh clearly demonstrated their dedication to the individuals they serve as well as to the Core Values by which we operate.

Submitted by Team Leader Ken Rose

Your Voices



An Impromptu Winter Poem

By John Lorton

(Editor's Note – John Lorton recited this poem on Dec. 18, 2009, at the Editorial Board Meeting.)

A crisp breeze is in the air
For chilly weather we must prepare
All the weather we hold so dear
Begins as the chilliest time of the year
Brrrrrr!



WINTER



Julia and Herb Kemp, and skills trainer Ron Hart-Hults enjoyed this view of the Dismal Creek Bridge along highway 37 south of Ina, IL. Ron's great-grandfather, Harrison Hart, designed the bridge. Herb and Julia spent Christmas at Sally William's house in Calvert City, KY. Herb and Julia had a great time on the trip and loved getting out of Indiana for a short time. Their favorite part was seeing their dear friend, Sally.

Winter photo by Bill Ray



Your Voices

New Hope Weight-Loss Challenge

By Tarina Joy Love

Before our first Biggest Loser Weight-Loss Challenge was over, I was already being asked often when we would have it again! This year 30 associates signed up and were grouped into teams of two. Rankings were organized by both team and sorted by individual. For 18 weeks I researched and shared information, advice and tips to not only lose weight but also develop lifestyle changes. Last year the predominant leader was surpassed at the last week, but this year's winner left others to battle for second and third! Ironically, last year's Top Three were all Skills Trainers while this year was office staff including an Office Professional, Nurse Consultant and Team Leader!

Midway prizes included water bottles and a week's pass to nearby Cardinal Fitness. Final prizes included low-cal to-go drink mix, a week's pass to nearby Gold's Gym, "The Calorie King" 2010 guides, and gift bags brimming full of non-edible goodies!



Connie Miller, Cheryl Barnes and Gail Mehrlich celebrate their weight loss success!

CONGRATULATIONS to:

1. **Connie M**, who lost 12.43 percent of her original starting weight back in July! Personal thoughts from Connie:

"Perseverance! The difference between this time and the many other times I have tried to lose, I guess I would have to say I finally asked for help. I went to a doctor and he helped me with

do. I still walk and have no intention of stopping."

Congratulations to everyone who made the "New Hope Biggest Loser: Second Chances" competition a success! Tune in next season; perhaps third time's the charm for you!

supplements and with advice. Only eat when you're hungry! Stop eating when you're full! He also said what we all know what we all have heard before: exercise. It truly is making your mind up, having the support of friends and the help of the supplements that made the difference this time."

2. **Cheryl B**, who lost 10.88 percent of her original starting weight back in July! Personal thoughts from Cheryl:

"It was great competing with co-workers to do something that was good for us and the competition made it fun. All the competition was in the spirit of having a good time and it was great to see friends do well with their weight loss. I felt that it brought us together as a work community and was helpful to each of us also."

3. **Gail M**, who lost 10.66 percent of her original starting weight back in July!

"My biggest incentive was some friendly competition and encouragement from my supervisor. I also walked a lot and drank more water than I usually

The Beach of my Dreams

By Marcia Carithers

I took my first trip to the ocean, which I call "big water" in November 2009. I've lived in Indiana all my life so I never saw the ocean. The trip with my family to the Delaware Coast was something I will remember all my life! As you can see from the photo, I had a special wheelchair to use on the beach. My family walked with me on the beach for a long time. I even got my feet wet in the very cold water. I will remember this trip forever!

Marcia with her family on the beach.



A Look Back at the Holidays



Purple Melodies Christmas Concert solos included (l-r) John Richey's version of "Blue Christmas;" Steve Reiff's version of "O Come All Ye Faithful" and Pat Reed's "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." The Singing/Karaoke and Bell classes had a Christmas Program at New Hope. The Purple Melodies Program just completed two years of a three-year program funded by Mission & Ministry.

Photo credit: Phil Custer



(L-R) Kathe Rae, Nicolas Ward, Paul Willy and Adriana Powell helped decorate the New Hope Christmas Tree in the entrance.



(L-R) Amanda Esbaum, Cheryl Hazelwood, Karrie Taylor and Becky Sigmon are Ho, Ho, Ho-ing at the SLP, SILP Christmas Party.



Winter Scene by Herb Kemp

People

Welcome to **Cassandra Baker**, case manager for Family Preservation.

Welcome to **Latoya Conner**, therapist for Family Preservation.

Congratulations to **Jason and Dawn Dunderdale** and big sister, Delaney, on the birth of Hailey.

Welcome to **Tabitha Ennis, Stephanie Frias, Tina Rhoades**, visitation specialists.

Welcome to **Dana Heinrich and Tylia Smith**, case managers for Family Preservation.

Welcome to the New Hope Nursing Team, **Rebecca Norrick, LPN**.

Welcome to **Teresa Parke**, therapist for Family Preservation.

Congratulation to **Liz and Aaron Seamon** on birth of their daughter, Natalie Grace.

Congratulations, Brad & Joy!

On Nov. 21, 2009, **Ron Hart-Hults** presided over Brad Mifflin and Joy Martin's ceremony with a very nice description of the meaning of love and commitment. After the wedding ceremony attended by many family, friends and staff, Brad and Joy celebrated by going out to dinner and spending a night at the Marten House. They now live together on 41st Street. They are thankful to the many people who helped bring this together including: **Beth Bower, Moreblessing Kadiyori, Ken Rose, Heather Jenson, Autumn Slevin, Lynn Feldman, Tracy Brabec and Mary Wagner-Shields**.



Brad Mifflin and Joy Martin celebrated their loving commitment to each other through a ceremony held in the St. Vincent Rendu Room.

Beth Bower and Moreblessing Kadiyori deserve to be recognized for their efforts in helping Brad and Joy plan and prepare for a life of living together. Beth and Moreblessing demonstrated dedication by making sure that Brad and Joy met with each other every Saturday. They showed wisdom by assisting Brad and Joy with making detailed plans such as deciding on a guest list,

invitations, food, flowers and clothing.

Because finances were tight, they showed a great deal of creativity in finding resources and donations needed for their celebration. They each contributed personally by donating their own items and time to make the day a memorable one.

People

Happy anniversary, John & Amy!

John and Amy were married Nov. 10, 1984, while living at New Hope. Family members recall that in 1984 the staff of New Hope was originally opposed to their marriage because it had never been done before. How would a married couple fit in with the needs and routines of the institution? Fortunately, John and Amy's wishes to marry were carried out and their wedding day was lovely. Now 25 years later, John and Amy celebrate a marriage which is very typical of many older married couples who have experienced the ups and downs of married life. Congratulations John and Amy!

Mary Wagner-Shields recognizes John and Amy's Skills Trainer Mary Wright, for her work with John and Amy and most especially for her efforts to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

In November 2008 I remembered having a conversation with **Mary Wright**, ST for John and Amy Stant, about the fact that in 2009 John and Amy will be married for 25 years, and wouldn't that be wonderful if they could have a special celebration for their 25th wedding anniversary.

Soon after, I became busy with other things, and forgot about helping John and Amy plan for this. But Mary did not forget. She worked above and beyond to plan a wonderful celebration for John and Amy. Mary involved John and Amy in planning every detail, including invitations, location, guest list, food, clothes, etc. Amazingly, she even handled the finances so that John and Amy contributed equally in the cost of the party.

The celebration was scheduled for Nov. 7 at New Hope's Rendu Room and was attended by more than 50 friends and family. The party couldn't have been planned better. Unfortunately for Mary she had to be present for a family funeral that day. However, she was at New Hope early to set up the room and greet people as they arrived. Then she returned toward the end of the party and stayed until the room was cleaned.

This is just one example of how Mary Wright has influenced the quality of life for both John and Amy over the past few years. Mary has not only exhibited the Core Values of dedication, creativity, service of the poor and reverence when planning the wedding anniversary party, she also exhibits these Core Values routinely, assisting John and Amy compassionately with their daily needs, creatively with their finances, respectfully with their relationship with each other, and generously with her time and effort to make John and Amy's home their own.



On Nov. 7, 2009, John and Amy Stant celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in the Rendu Room at St. Vincent New Hope. More than 50 family and friends attended to celebrate their achievement.



(l-r) Susan Robinson, Sam Wade, Joe Cleary, Sister Francine Brown, D.C., and Kurt Shields enjoyed the New Hope Breakfast for Sister Francine.
Photo credit: Kathe Rae.



Herb Kemp (left) and Jay Bueth discuss the musical score before the Robin Run Big Band performance.
Photo credit: Ron Hart-Hults



Mark Smith and Skills Trainer Linda Griffith got to see his first-ever Colts game and had a great time.



Amanda Esbaum (right) and Tanya Willis-Robinson enjoyed lunch at the Thanks-for-Giving Soup Lunch. Proceeds from the lunch were sent to the Daughters of Charity Foundation for a sponsored mission in Venezuela.



The annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale was very successful thanks to your generosity and giving spirits. Tiffany Jackson (left), Misty Link and others sold baked goods including these beautiful cakes. Proceeds from the sale are used to assist a family served in Community Outreach for the holidays.

Photo credit: Kathe Rae

People



(l-r) Aaron and Liz Seamon, Maureen Broaddus, Stephanie and Matt Walkup, Alana and grandmother, Fran Neberieza had fun at the Associate Recognition Dinner. Photo credit: Kathe Rae



Mary Ann Gilbert met "Elvis" at the Penrod Art Fair. This was a dream come true for her. She had front row seats with her staff, Daphion Burns, who took pictures of Mary Ann with Elvis. When Elvis threw his scarf, guess who caught it? It was Mary Ann! Photo credit: Daphion Burns



(l-r) Clarence Glass, Joseph Fairchild, Ken Rose and Erica Edler enjoyed picking out pumpkins at Stuckey Farms.



Doubletake: Kosi Collins (left) and her twin sister, Busie Nyoni celebrated Kosi's five year anniversary as a New Hope associate at the annual Recognition Dinner. Photo credit: Kathe Rae



Mark Merritt's canoe ride on Sugar Creek. Mark paddled for three hours until he and his father ran into a stone wall and capsized in waist-deep water. After working their way to a sandbar and emptying the canoe of water, Mark commented, "That was fun!" Photo credit: Buck Merritt



Clarence Glass enjoyed helping with the leaves at his home.



Bishop Chatard High School volunteers are welcomed by Jim Van Dyke and Leah Steere for their day of service at Justin and Seton group homes. The volunteers did a great job at both homes.