Spring 2018 Volume XXIV Edition II

# **Packet Boat Landing Apartments**

## **Open House**

ePaul along with New York State Homes and Community Renewal (NYSHCR), the New York State Office of Mental Health (NYSOMH), local officials and leaders, and project partners, recently celebrated the completion of the Packet Boat Landing Apartments in Lockport, New York with an open house.

The three-story, 62,000 square-foot affordable housing development at 465 South Street features 60 new one-bedroom units, 21 of which are set aside as supportive housing to assist individuals to live independently in the community. The \$18 million development is part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's unprecedented commitment to affordable housing which includes \$20 billion to build or preserve 100,000 units of affordable housing, and 6,000 units of supportive housing across the State.

#### New York State Homes and Community **Renewal Commissioner/CEO RuthAnne**

Visnauskas said, "Packet Boat Landing delivers the mix of affordability and supportive services that are essential in our fight against homelessness, and our ability to ensure that all New Yorkers can access the opportunity created by our growing economy. Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, we are creating

and preserving integrated, safe and affordable homes in communities just like Lockport that help strengthen local economies."

#### New York State Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan said,

"The supportive housing units in the Packet Boat Landing Apartments in Lockport will help individuals with mental illness to live and thrive in their own community. We at OMH are proud to work with our colleagues at HCR, helping to give our most vulnerable neighbors an opportunity to live, and thrive, in their community."





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## **Packet Boat Landing Apartments Open House**

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All apartments feature fully equipped kitchens with a range, refrigerator and microwave, a wallmounted TV 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 at no cost. Tenants have access to a community room, lounges and a computer lab. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in common areas in the building.



Speakers at the Packet Boat Landing Apartments Open House included DePaul President Mark Fuller, Commissioner/CEO of New York State Homes and Community Renewal RuthAnne Visnauskas, Niagara County Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Director Laura J. Kelemen, Lockport Mayor Anne McCaffrey, New York State Senator, District 62 Robert Ortt, Assemblyman, 144th Assembly District Michael Norris, President Regions Affordable Housing Robert Chiles and Director of Housing, New York State Office of Mental Health Brett Hebner.

Partners involved in the project are DePaul, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, the New York State Office of Mental Health, Niagara County Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, City of Lockport, Regions Affordable Housing, KeyBank, Calamar Construction and SWBR Architects.

**DePaul President Mark H. Fuller said,** "DePaul is pleased to be a community partner in meeting the need for quality affordable housing options in Lockport and throughout New York State. We wish to thank Governor Cuomo and the State for providing DePaul with the funding that has made this project a reality. Packet Boat Landing is an example of progress and partnership in action."

The Packet Boat Landing Apartments received funding through New York State Housing Financing Agency taxexempt bonds, subsidies provided by NYSHCR in addition to Low Income Housing Tax Credits, NYSOMH loans and grants, and a grant from New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The project also received funding from the NYSOMH for case management services for some tenants.

The project incorporated "green" standards, including using Energy Star-rated appliances and lighting fixtures and high-efficiency furnaces and condensing units for heating and cooling. In addition, Packet Boat Landing is certified to Version 3.1 of the Energy Star Certified for Homes program and the NYSERDA Low Rise Residential New Construction program.

*New York Senator Robert Ortt said, "*If you don't have stable housing, then you're probably not going to get the

services that you need. If you're not getting the services that you need, you're not getting your medications...you may end up homeless. You may end up in the emergency room. And, in fact, we know this is what happens when folks who have mental health issues don't have stable housing opportunities. There is a need for this. Not just an abstract need. but there's a need right here in Niagara County, right here in the City of Lockport."

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo said, "Expanding

affordable housing across New York is a top priority in order to ensure all New Yorkers have the opportunity to live independently within their communities. The Packet Boat Landing Apartments helps guarantee that Lockport residents, including the most vulnerable among them, can prosper in a compassionate community, building a better New York for all."

Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul said, "This project is another investment continuing the development and growth of Western New York's economy. We're focused on bringing more businesses and people to the area, while building new housing options that are convenient and inclusive. The State is dedicating billions of dollars to construct affordable housing developments to provide all New Yorkers with safe and affordable places to live."

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority President and CEO Alicia Barton said, "This project exemplifies New York's commitment to develop affordable housing for our most vulnerable individuals who are in need of a comfortable home and supportive services that provide them with opportunities to be active members of their local communities. Ensuring a better quality of life for all New Yorkers is paramount to Governor Cuomo, and that support starts at home."

The name 'Packet Boat Landing' is derived from the packet boats used on the Erie Canal system in New York State during the 18th and 19th centuries. Packet boats can still be rented and are used on the canal today.

### **Cultural Awareness Education at Rochester View Apartments**

DePaul's Rochester View Apartments (RVA) in Henrietta, New York are improving the quality of life for residents. RVA is New York State's first apartment community to offer enhanced supports that accommodate income-eligible tenants who may be Deaf, hard of hearing and those using American Sign Language.

Janna Luksha, a deaf-certified personal trainer, has been guiding

RVA residents in a fitness class involving cardio, strength training and flexibility on Friday evenings. Pictured here are (back row left to right) Barry Dischinger, Carol Nesmith, George Canne, Alice Hochhausler, (front row left to right) Sara Haimowitz, fitness instructor Janna Luksha, and front desk assistant Joyce Fuhrman.





In addition, Nikk Bouteiller, Community Services Navigator from Deaf Access Services (DAS) in Buffalo, recently visited RVA to lead an educational workshop related to communicating

with the Deaf-Blind population. Several residents who live at RVA are Deaf-Blind. Pictured here during the Deaf-Blind panel discussion is Jonny Hoblitz of RVA, a tactile interpreter, Deaf-Blind workshop leader Nikk Bouteiller, a tactical interpreter and Monica Masterson of RVA.

### **Development Updates**

Construction on the Upper Falls Square Apartments is ahead of schedule due to a mild winter in 2017.

The Upper Falls Square Apartments will feature two new multi-story buildings totaling over 142,000 square feet, with 150

studio, one- and twobedroom apartments. Upper Falls Square Apartments is a noncertified New York State Office of Mental Health Program which will provide permanent housing where residents can access the support services they require to live successfully in the community.

Building A is steadily progressing with flooring, roofing and siding installation, 
 Building A



painting and ceiling work. Building B is close to completion. Recent work included appliance installation, painting and fire alarm and security installation. The project represents a \$50 million investment in the Hudson Avenue corridor in Rochester, New York.



### Villas at Rolling Ridge Expand

Applications are now being accepted for the newly-expanded Villas at Rolling Ridge, a DePaul Independent Senior Living Apartment Community, located at 695 Mount Olive Drive in Newton Grove, North Carolina. Twelve newly-constructed, spacious, one-bedroom, single-level apartments offer trash removal, laundry hook-up, individually-controlled heating and air conditioning and 24-hour emergency maintenance. Utilities are included in the rental fee and the apartments are pet-friendly.

Conveniently located near restaurants, grocery stores and places of worship, the Villas at Rolling Ridge feature fully equipped kitchens, wall-to-wall carpeting, ceramic tile, and ample closet space, as well as an inviting porch and patio. The expansion brings the total of independent senior living apartments at the Villas at Rolling Ridge to 20. For more information, contact Administrator Laura Anderson at (919) 894-3001 or at landerson@depaul.org.

## **Board Updates**

Please join DePaul in welcoming **Jamie Catalfamo**, **Stephanie Lapple**, **Esq.** and **Tim Leyden** to the DePaul Community Services Board of Directors. In addition, **Keith McGriff**, **Ph.D**. joins the DePaul Adult Care Communities Board of Directors and the Audit Committee.

Catalfamo is a Financial Professional with AXA Advisors, LLC and a graduate of the State University of New York at Binghamton.

A recent graduate of the Pennsylvania State University's Dickenson School of Law, Lapple is an an Associate Attorney at Woods, Oviatt Gilman, LLP.

A Certified Public Accountant in New York, Leyden recently joined Paychex as Senior Internal Auditor. He holds degrees in business administration from the State University of New York at Geneseo and accounting from St. John Fisher College's Bittner School of Business.

McGriff is Director of Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled Programs for The Community Place of Greater Rochester, Inc. A graduate of St. John Fisher College, he recently received his certification as a Residential Child and Youth Care Professional Trainer from the University of Oklahoma.







Tim Leyden



Stephanie Lapple, Esq.



Keith McGriff, Ph.D.

Wheatfield Commons

## **DePaul Receives Niagara USA Chamber Honors**



### **DePaul Awarded Grant for Health and Wellness Programs**

DePaul is one of thirteen Rochester-area nonprofits selected to share \$91,200 for health and wellness programs through Excellus BlueCross BlueShield's Community Health Awards support programs. The grants are intended to support programs that have clear goals to improve the health or health care of a specific population, such as improving the health status of the community, reducing the incidence of specific diseases, promoting

people for their dedication and work in the Niagara region.

Honors Annual Dinner is held each year to honor businesses and business



health education and enhancing overall wellness.

The funding awarded to DePaul will be used to offer a fall prevention training program to staff and residents of its licensed mental health residential programs beginning in June. The combination of mental illness and chronic medical conditions contribute to an increased risk of falling. The program's goal is to decrease the number of falls with injury by 50 percent.

## **Partnership in Action**

The Community Preservation Corporation (CPC) has partnered with DePaul on projects including the Carriage Factory Apartments in Rochester, New York and the Rochester View Apartments in Henrietta, New York. The non-profit organization shares DePaul's mission to meet local housing needs and to revitalize communities.

DePaul President Mark Fuller, Vice President of DePaul Properties, Inc. Gillian Conde and CPC Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Sadie McKeown were recently interviewed at the Carriage Factory Apartments, sharing how DePaul's strong partnership with CPC was crucial to the completion of the project.

DePaul's renovation of the historic James Cunningham Carriage Factory memorializes the thriving manufacturing business that was once housed in the 73,000-square-foot building and represents a \$23 million dollar investment in Rochester's Susan B. Anthony neighborhood.



Pictured are DePaul President Mark Fuller, The Community Preservation Corporation (CPC) Mortgage Officer Miriam Zinter, CPC Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Sadie McKeown, Carriage Factory Apartments Property Manager Alicia LoMaglio and Senior Program Supervisor Sarah Plantz.



DePaul staff and volunteers from Monroe Plan participated in the Remember Garden cleanup in mid-May.

DePaul staff, clients and volunteers pitched in to spruce up the Remember Garden in Rochester, New York's Highland Park in May. The 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.

Cleanup efforts began with residents from several of DePaul's mental health residential programs and continued with DePaul staff, along with help from volunteers from Monroe Plan through the United Way of Greater Rochester's Day of Caring, to get the garden in prime shape for the Lilac Festival!

## **DePaul Receives Recognition**

#### Joseph L. Allen Apartments *Receives Accolades*

DePaul's Joseph L. Allen Apartments (JLA) in Schenectady, New York was recently recognized with the Genesee Award by the



Rochester Chapter Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) for excellence in construction documents and construction management.

In addition, JLA was approved as a Green Communities Certified Development by Enterprise Green Communities. The certification demonstrates DePaul's commitment to providing high-performance, healthy homes for lowincome families.

Featuring 51 new studio, one- and two-bedroom units, the Joseph L. Allen Apartments serve income-eligible tenants and provide linkages to services to accommodate tenants with special needs.

#### NYSERDA Recognizes DePaul

DePaul received the High Quality for Top Producing Partners Builder Award from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The award is given to the builder who demonstrated both high production and their commitment to high quality construction and energy performance as indicated by their low average Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index.

Specifically, DePaul achieved this honor for building a large number of units as part of the NYSERDA Low-Rise Residential New Construction Program and working with Sustainable Comfort, Inc. to achieve high levels of energy efficiency.

## **Trolley Station Craft Club**

The Trolley Station Apartments Craft Club, which meets once a week, has donated three large boxes of hats, scarves and gloves to the Golisano Children's Hospital, as well as to the Salvation Army and the Canandaigua VA Medical Center. On Valentine's Day, the group dropped off hats and scarves to Noah's Blessing Box, run by a local family who lost their son to opioid addiction located outside of Canandaigua. The box is open for anyone to donate food and other needed items, as well as for anyone to take from.

"It gives our residents an outlet for something creative," said Housing Specialist Melissa Dymond. "It was empowering for our residents to donate their homemade goodies."



Melissa B. (Trolley Station)

## 14th Annual Salerno Basketball Tournament



Players from DePaul, East House and the Finger Lakes DDSO competed in the 14th 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 who provide support, t-shirts and lunch for all participants.



Pictured here Roger H. (Neighborhood of the Arts Apartments) accepting the trophy for overall MVP from Noreen Salerno.



Pictured here, the winning team consisted of Carl Gray (Edgerton Square), Louis Welch (Cornerstone), Adam Y. (Neighborhood of the Arts Apartments), Avory Burch (East House) and Roger H. (Neighborhood of the Arts Apartments).

### **Making their Voices Heard**



Pictured in Albany with Recreation are Ranique S. and Danita Forney of NOTA.

DePaul clients and staff traveled to Albany, New York in February to advocate on behalf of individuals with a mental illness. Led by DePaul Recreation Activity Coordinator Austin Pettigrew, several clients of DePaul programs including the Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) and Rochester View Apartment Treatment Programs and the community joined a convoy chartered by the Mental Health Association's Creative Wellness Center and bound for the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. and Association for Community Living's "Get on the Bus" Legislative Day.

"I felt like not only did I have a voice for those who are incarcerated and those with



DePaul Senior Program Director Chris Tolhurst (back row, middle) and Low Income Housing Tax Credit Specialist Carrie Datro (front row, second from right) also represented DePaul at the Supportive Housing Network of New York's annual lobbying day aimed at advocating for adequate funding for new and existing supportive housing programs in Albany in March.

mental illnesses, I also had a voice for my mother, my brother and my grandfather," said Ranique S. of DePaul's Neighborhood of the Arts Apartment Treatment Program. "We had a voice for everyone who couldn't be there and for ourselves."

## 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** sponsored a team in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk in early May in



Suited up for the pie-in-the-face fundraiser are Neighborhood of the Arts Apartment Senior Program Supervisor Samantha Aldinger and Residential Counselors Yvonne Warren and Brian McBride. The event raised nearly \$120 for DePaul Community Services' NAMIWalks Rochester team.

Rochester, New York. The team included staff and residents from DePaul's Carriage Factory, West Main Street, Ridgeview Commons and Neighborhood of the Arts Apartment Treatment Programs; Edgerton Square, Parkside and Rochester View Community



Staff and residents Taylor W., Tiara Rollins and Richard W. from Seneca Square.

Residence-Single Room Occupancy Programs, and Elmgrove Licensed Congregate Treatment Sites. Together, they raised over \$1,000 for individuals living with psychiatric disorders.

In Buffalo, New York, residents from the 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.

## **Success Through Active Recovery**

DePaul is working to support residents who have a mental health diagnosis coupled with substance or alcohol addiction using the Success Through Active Recovery (STAR) Program. Launched in June 2017, the

program includes support for clients and training for staff.

Mental health and chemical dependency often go hand-inhand, according to DePaul's Mental Illness/Chemical Addiction Specialist Ben Narvaez.

"They are two different illnesses, but one thing we know is there is a prevalence for selfmedicating in mental health," he



Ben Narvaez

said. "Many clients began using when they were very young to cope with anxiety, voices and depression."

Getting clients involved in peer support self-help groups or learning about relapse prevention are tools that can help get people really involved in their recovery, said Narvaez. Dual-recovery, peer-led support groups are being offered in Rochester, New York at DePaul's Neighborhood of the Arts Apartment Treatment Program and the Lyell Road Licensed Congregate Treatment Site. Meetings at the Ridgeview Commons Apartment Treatment Program will resume once renovations on the community are complete.

The STAR program will also provide staff with training on

how to address the chemical dependency issue. Each site will have a STAR liason or expert and there will be staff meetings to share additional resources, talk about strategies or approaches, and increase knowledge about recovery opportunities, said Senior Director of Apartment and Congregate Treatment Programs Julie Edwards.



Julie Edwards

Narvaez said STAR has been successful in helping clients at various levels of recovery from those who are maintaining years of recovery to those just beginning to recognize unhealthy behaviors that can lead to substance abuse or the need for a higher level of care to prevent relapses.

"They are starting to realize they need to change their pattern for their health and quality of life," he adds.

Visit DePaul's Blog at https://www.depaul.org/2018/04/04/ success-through-active-recovery-star/ for the full story!



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#### NCADD-RA speaks to MCSBA



NCADD-RA Director Jennifer Faringer recently spoke to the Monroe County School Boards Association (MCSBA) about the opioid epidemic and community resources available for tackling the issue. Pictured with Faringer (center) are Tammy Gurowski, President of the Spencerport Board of Education and Gary Bracken, Vice President of the Webster Board of Education.

Mark H. Fuller – President Marcia Dlutek – Editor

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

#### Amy Cavalier - Copywriter

and affordable housing. To receive DePaul Details electronically, please provide your name and e-mail address to Monica Bulger at mbulger@depaul.org in DePaul's Communications Department.

Kathi Stolte

- Design



Our sincerest thanks to the M&T Foundation for their grant to support building updates to the DePaul Ridgeview Commons Apartment Treatment Program in Rochester, New York.

On behalf of DePaul clients and staff, sincere thanks for your contribution and for helping DePaul continue to make a difference.



Pictured here, DePaul President Mark Fuller accepts a check from Senior Vice President and President of M&T Bank's Rochester region Dan Burns and Vice President Middle Market for M&T Bank Tim Siverd.

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

