



The DePaul family has always worked hard to make a difference for our people and our communities. In these unprecedented times, we are forever grateful for the countless acts of humanity that raise our spirits and make each day brighter. We hope you'll join us in celebrating the good that we see at DePaul, as we navigate this journey together.

Art Therapy

Busy hands are happy hands! DePaul residents have been working on a multitude of art projects!



Pictured above, top row, residents at Woodcrest Commons in Henrietta, New York show off Spring-themed canvas art and tiger sand art. Pictured above, bottom row, residents at Greenbrier in Fairmont, North Carolina dig into a recent edition of an activities book on which the Recreation and Communications departments have collaborated.



A resident at DePaul's Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) Apartments in Rochester, New York and avid participant in the DePaul Recreation Program has been doodling some funnies.

FROM OUR WINDOW

By: Shirley Merton

On May 2, a pair of cardinals came for breakfast. It was fun to watch them. The male took seeds to her.

Then the flock of sparrows arrived to enjoy eating. They especially like the chips they were fed.

Next, four squirrels showed up. One of them is a blond. Then, the race was on. They would be good at the Daytona 500.

Our Sammie the squirrel was playing 'jump the dandelions.' He took his treasure to hide them for the future.

The dandelions apparently sleep at night. This morning, they were up bright and early. Their beautiful yellow faces against the green grass was breathtaking.

The blue jay stopped by, noisy as usual. We have a beautiful blue sky this morning, temperature is 50 degrees. Now at 7:30, our songbirds have showed up. The way he is marked, it looks like he is wearing a mask. Right in line with the rest of us!

At 8:30, a starling showed up. He exhibits a rainbow of colors when the sun shines on him.

At 1:30, the morning dove made a quick visit. Perhaps had to go for a nap. Looking across the yard, I noticed one lonely daffodil in bloom. To top the day off, one busy bumblebee flew by.

Today is Sunday, May 3rd. The sparrows have gathered for an outdoor service. It appears that Sammie is the spokesperson. It was a short service, that is the kind I like. The morning dove was singing the anthem. I prefer a choir.

Once again blue skies, small gathering of white clouds. Temperature is 70 degrees, WOW! There is a pussy willow bush in the yard. It is showing its furry buds. This seems to be a morning for racing. The squirrels have been at it for 15 minutes. Speeds up to 5 miles an hour.

The squirrels spend a lot of time pruning the buds from the end of the branches. The action was like bouncing on a trampoline.

And a resident at Woodcrest Commons in Henrietta, New York was inspired to write this poem about the nature she observes outside of her window.

A-door-able Décor

The halls of DePaul's communities are filled with colorful doors thanks to creative residents.



Pictured top row, residents at the Knitting Mill Apartments in Perry, New York participated in and voted on a door decorating contest. Pictured bottom row, spring is popping with colorful wreaths on the doors at Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda, New York.

Community Cares

It's not difficult to see the difference that DePaul is making in communities across New York, North Carolina and South Carolina. The signs are clear.



Pictured above, signs of support have appeared on the lawns and in the windows at Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, Dayspring of Wallace in Wallace, North Carolina and Rolling Ridge in Newton Grove, North Carolina; clowns show up to provide entertainment at Rolling Ridge; a flock of flamingos "landed" on the lawn at Cambridge House in Hildebran, North Carolina; flowers donated by a local grocer add spring color to Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda, New York, and staff from Hospice and Palliative Care of Lincoln County expresses appreciation to the staff at Twelve Oaks.

Overflowing with Gratitude

The outpouring of donations of support from families and community members in recent weeks has truly been overwhelming. From the food and cards to acts of service, donations of personal protective equipment, and much more, we are beyond grateful.



DePaul has been the recipient of a variety of personal protection equipment, everything from homemade masks and plastic face shields to disinfectant products and 'mask buddies' to protect staff members' ears!

- Restoration Society, Inc.'s ACE Employment Services (Batavia Apartments)
- Lynda M. Battaglia, LCSW, Genesee County Director of Mental Health and Community Services, Office of Mental Health (Batavia Apartment Treatment Program and Genesee Supported Housing)
- Pam Bauman (Batavia Apartments)
- Denise Borchert (Glenwell)
- Kim Branch (Twelve Oaks)
- Sharon DeGroat (Ebenezer Square)
- Kelly Dryja, LCSW, Director of Community Services, Wyoming County Mental Health Department (Wyoming County Apartments)
- Marianne Flynn (Glenwell)
- Terry Godwin (Rolling Ridge)
- Donna Guy (Glenwell)
- Alice Livermore (Westwood Commons)
- Ann Holt and Bristol Holt-Newman (Twelve Oaks)
- Gail McKee (Batavia Apartments)
- Mary Shinnors (Glenwell)
- Shirley Smith (Glenwell)

- Christa Sullivan (Skybird Landing)
- Cheryl Winkleman (Glenwell)
- Jennifer Wright (West Main and DePaul)
- Wyoming County Mental Health (Wyoming County Apartments)



Thank you to some of the community members, area churches and DePaul staff for going above and beyond to brighten each day with food, gift cards, flowers, cards, and much more!

- Gardening seeds from Black Button Distillery (DePaul Recreation)
- Discounted flower pots from The Garden Factory (DePaul Recreation)
- Cookies to staff from Vanessa Nobrega (Edgerton Square)
- Gift card from Joanne, Susan and Kathy (Glenwell)
- TV Tray from Donna Guy (Glenwell)
- Lunch for staff from Rashaad Rogers, Diane McMahon, Sandie Criddle, Carol and Joe Kast (Glenwell)
- Treats for staff Mark and Kristin Ries, Donna Conley and Kim Recktenwald (Glenwell)
- Craft supplies and bird seed from family of Maureen Sessions (Glenwell)
- HanesBrands, Inc. (GOW Supported Housing)
- New York State Office of Mental Health (GOW Supported Housing)
- Thank You Heroes board (Heath House)
- Support from Elouise Phipps (Rolling Ridge)
- Cake for staff from Paulette Surratt (Twelve Oaks)
- Snack bins from Madison Golding and First Pentecostal Holiness Church (Twelve Oaks)
- Sign of appreciation from Andrew Groom (Wexford House)
- Cards to residents from Kristen Saskowski and Occupational Therapy Students at the University of Buffalo (Wheatfield Commons)
- Wraps for lunch from the Duquette family (Wheatfield Commons)

- Trader Joe's (Wheatfield Commons)
- Pizza gift card from the Martin Family (Wheatfield Commons)
- Gift basket from the Larrabee, Shank and Hopkins families (Wheatfield Commons)

Bingo Must Go On!

Everyone loves bingo! DePaul staff across the agency have found a way to make the favorite pastime possible for residents while social distancing! Some communities have residents playing in their bedrooms, announcing the numbers over the intercom system, while others have been setting up games in the halls, with residents seated just inside their doors.



Pictured above, residents line the hallways at Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda, New York to try their luck; a staff member wheels around a prize cart during hallway bingo at Parkside in East Rochester, New York, and a resident at Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina shows off her prize!

DePaul's Shining Stars

Not all heroes wear capes! The DePaul family has always worked hard to make a difference for our people and our communities. Congratulations to all of our Shining Stars for continuously going above and beyond!



The Employees at Parkside

"The Parkside team has done such a wonderful job with handling ongoing daily changes. I am so pleased at the hoops they continue to jump through to make sure all the residents are cared for at Parkside as well as caring and supporting each other during this time. I am grateful to be part of such a wonderful team."



The Employees at Ebenezer Square

"Thank you all for going above and beyond to keep our residents' needs met and keeping Ebenezer safe during the COVID-19 crisis."

Stay tuned for more good news...

