



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.

Please print and post at your site for staff without email.

DePaul Strong #62 – February 27, 2024

Themed Days

No matter what season, there's always plenty of ways and reasons to celebrate at DePaul!



Pictured top row, left to right...

- Cheese Pizza Day at [Glenwell](#) (January 5)
- Chocolate Covered Cherry Day at [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#) (January 3)
- Hot Tea Day at the [Trolley Station Apartments](#) (January 12)
- Rubber Ducky Day at Heritage Manor of Lockport (January 13)

Pictured middle row, left to right...

- Snowman Day at Glenwell (January 18)
- Snowman Day at [Wheatfield Commons](#) (January 18)
- Popcorn Day at Heritage Manor of Lockport (January 19)
- Penguin Day at Wheatfield Commons (January 20)

Pictured bottom row, left to right...

- Peanut Butter Day at Heritage Manor of Lockport (January 24)
- Hot Chocolate Day at the [Knitting Mill Apartments](#) (January 31)
- Hot Chocolate Day at Heritage Manor of Lockport (January 31)
- Chocolate Fondue Day at [Woodcrest Commons](#) (February 5)

For a full month-by-month list of some unique holidays and theme days which were celebrated across the agency in 2023, visit the DePaul Blog at www.depaul.org/2024/01/04/365-days-of-celebrations-in-2023/.

Savor the Flavor

From food holidays to comfort foods, there's no shortage of culinary adventures to relish across DePaul!



Pictured top row, left to right, residents of [Glenwell](#) in Cheektowaga make biscuits, enjoy lunch at a local diner, prepare pineapple upside down cake, and celebrate ice cream Mondays.

Pictured middle row, left to right, are the first cookout of 2024 and pie club at [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#) and at [Westwood Commons](#) in North Chili, staff prepare omelets and a resident savors pot pie for lunch.

Pictured bottom row, left to right, seniors of [Wheatfield Commons](#) in North Tonawanda whip up a batch of brownies, chocolate covered fruit and apple crisp while residents of the [Veddersburg Apartments](#) in Amsterdam make homemade meatballs.

Unconditional Love

Nothing warms the heart quite like some pet therapy!



Pictured top row, left to right, seniors of [Glenwell](#) in Cheektowaga were delighted by a visit from Goat Love for Mental Health while [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#) soaked up pet therapy with a golden retriever puppy named Vina and another fluffy friend named Griffin.

Pictured bottom row, left to right, seniors of Heritage Manor of Lockport visit with Shelby and Birdie, while a resident of [Wheatfield Commons](#) in North Tonawanda is accompanied by Archer.

Recreation For the Win

Fun and games are on tap with DePaul's Recreation Department!



DePaul staff and residents participated in a Pickleball tournament hosted by DePaul's Recreation Program in Rochester in December 2023. The winners were awarded a trophy plus jars of pickles and gift cards. Congratulations to all who participated!

Prior to the start of the 2023-2024 football season, participants in DePaul's Recreation Program predicted the winner of each game and were awarded points for correct guesses. Pictured far right is the winner of this year's NFL Recreation Challenge, a resident of the [Carriage Factory Apartments](#) in Rochester who earned 10,600 points!

Active and Engaged

Inspiration and enrichment come in many forms thanks to special guests and unique activities.



Pictured top row, guitarist Joseph Mahfoud serenaded residents of [Glenwell](#) in Cheektowaga for Valentine's Day, and recent entertainment at [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#) has included singing by members of the Amish community in Lyndonville, clarinetist Sujeet Desai, and a staff member from Niagara Hospice plays the guitar while a resident sings.

Pictured middle row, left to right, residents of [Westwood Commons](#) in North Chili participate in a sing-along with the use of IN2L software, seniors of [Wheatfield Commons](#) in North Tonawanda took part in a drum circle hosted by KB Percussion Adventures, chair line dancing and a hands and fingers fitness class to increase range of motion and improved flexibility.

Pictured bottom row, left to right, also at Wheatfield Commons, a staff member regaled residents with beautiful harp music, residents took part in a choir practice, and Mario had residents on their feet during the Valentine's Day party, while residents and staff of [Woodcrest Commons](#) in Henrietta enjoyed music by Jeff Elliot.

Holidays Abound

There's no shortage of ways to celebrate across the agency!



Pictured above, left to right, residents of [Halstead Square](#) in Rochester celebrated Groundhog Day by decorating cupcakes and doing puzzles, staff and residents checked to see if 'Bunxsutawney Birdie' saw her shadow at [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#), and seniors of [Wheatfield Commons](#) in North Tonawanda enjoyed a groundhog-themed craft activity.



Several sites celebrated Chinese New Year! Pictured above, left to right, seniors at Heritage Manor of Lockport marked the occasion with a meal including orange chicken, beef and broccoli and fried rice, participants in DePaul's Recreation program made handcrafted paper

lanterns and scratched off lucky fortunes, and seniors at Wheatfield Commons made dragon crafts to honor 2024 as the year of the Dragon.



Pictured top row, left to right, Super Bowl Sunday inspired activities including a bean bag toss game and football shaped whoopie pies at [Glenwell](#) in Cheektowaga, a bean bag football contest hosted by DePaul's Recreation Department with the winner receiving cheeseballs and orange soda, and the [Trolley Station Apartments](#) in Canandaigua hosted a Souper Bowl where residents had the chance to sample and vote on a variety of soups made by staff.

Pictured bottom row is a delicious buffet of snacks for the Super Bowl at the [Starting Line Apartments](#) in Utica.



Pictured left to right celebrating Mardi Gras with pizzaz and paczki are seniors from Glenwell, [Westwood Commons](#) in North Chili and Wheatfield Commons.



There was no shortage of love at DePaul on Valentine's Day! Pictured top row, left to right, the [DeWitt Clinton Apartments](#) in Rome celebrated with a catered lunch and delicious desserts, Glenwell seniors flexed their creativity with heart in bloom crafts and colorful cotton swab paintings, and Heritage Manor of Lockport captured memories with a Valentine's Day photo shoot.

Pictured middle row, left to right, the [Knitting Mill Apartments](#) in Perry celebrated with a mixer, residents of the Starting Line Apartments created a self-love wall, and Westwood Commons seniors enjoyed a Valentine's Day social complete with sweet treats.

Pictured bottom row, left to right, residents of Westwood Commons completed a Valentine's Day themed coloring activity while a resident of Wheatfield Commons appreciated being the recipients of heart shaped wreaths, teddy bears, cookies and cards from students at Starpoint Central School District.

To revisit some of the 2023 holiday highlights from across the agency, visit the DePaul Blog at <https://www.depaul.org/2024/01/09/tis-the-season-to-be-jolly/>.

Overflowing with Gratitude

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



Donations for Veterans and Recreation

- Squadron 900 from the American Legion in Batavia provided support for the holiday needs of Veterans of the [Charles J. Lesh, M.D. Apartments](#).
- The Small Business Council of Rochester donated food to [Farmington Safe Haven](#).
- The Thirsty Turtle Sports Bar provided 60 Turkey dinners to Farmington Safe Haven.
- Unified Maintenance and Construction, Inc. (UMAC) and Mess Construction provided dinner from Route 66 BBQ to Farmington Safe Haven.
- An anonymous donor provided handmade dishcloths for Veterans of [Liberty Square](#) in Batavia.
- The Ogden Presbyterian Church donated stockings filled with gifts for residents and snacks for staff at the Spencerport Home.
- Brian Pettit and the players from the St. John's CYO basketball league who made and donated four apple pies to Spencerport Home.
- Senior Citizen of Riga, Inc. generously delivered supplies, canned goods and more to Spencerport Home.
- The Harvey C Noone Post 954 provided coats, hats, gloves, socks, and cards with candy for all the residents of Spencerport Home.
- Spencerport Home received a donation of poinsettias from Kitchens by Oaks.

- The Spencerport Travel Soccer Team brought in baking supplies to make Christmas cookies and watched football with residents of Spencerport Home.
- Barbara Alexander and Lisa Gartz delivered stockings donated by the Chili American Legion Auxiliary for Spencerport Home.
- McCracken Farms donated fresh beef to Spencerport Home.
- The Spencerport Rotary Club provided Sunday dinners for Spencerport Home.
- The Chili American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1830 spread cheer at Spencerport Home with homemade Valentine's Day cards.
- His Healing Presence from Medina donated 104 goodie bags for Veterans.
- Wegmans Learning, Merchandising, Marketing & Talent Sourcing Team provided household, hygiene and crafting supplies for Veterans and DePaul Recreation participants.



Donations for Seniors

- The Fry and Lemieux families made the holidays at [Glenwell](#) a little sweeter with some delicious baked goods.
- Barb Russo and family provided treats for staff of [Heritage Manor of Lockport](#).
- Thank you to the Farley Family for donating cute treats for the residents of Heritage Manor of Lockport.
- A crafty and kind anonymous donor supplied homemade blankets to seniors of Heritage Manor of Lockport.
- Ken Keiffer from Visiting Nurses Association of WNY (VNA) delivered a yummy cheesecake to Heritage Manor of Lockport.
- Julie Kruszynski supplied Heritage Manor of Lockport with a Wegmans sub and fruit tray.

- The Pickering Family donated beautiful flowers to [Westwood Commons](#).
- Bill and The Hellaby family gifted a tin of chocolates to Westwood Commons.
- Ann Boughner and family gifted candy to Westwood Commons.
- Dean Hiler and Vickie Gross donated chocolates for the staff of Westwood Commons along with a sweet card of appreciation.
- The Zuch Family provided cookies from Muscoreil's Fine Desserts to [Wheatfield Commons](#).
- The Biondi family delivered goodies from Platter's Chocolate Factory to Wheatfield Commons.
- The Layer family supplied a delicious lunch for staff of Wheatfield Commons.
- The Heckler family provided a box of chocolates for the memory care staff of Wheatfield Commons.
- The Fritz family brought in delicious cupcakes for the staff of Wheatfield Commons.
- Gladys Guize and her daughter-in-law Pat brought in a Thanksgiving card and some delicious cookies to Wheatfield Commons.
- Jeff and Tina Davis delivered beautiful poinsettia plants for all tables in the dining room and the nursing station at Wheatfield Commons.
- Resident Barbara Meenaghan's son Joesph and his wife donated a beautiful Christmas tree for the memory care unit at Wheatfield Commons.
- Tomasina Cammarata's daughters Linda, Mary, and Angela brought in a Christmas meal for all staff of Wheatfield Commons, complete with cupcakes for dessert.
- Kathy Barton brought flowers from Trader Joe's in Buffalo to Wheatfield Commons.
- The Treichler Family donated several platters of sweet confections from Platter's Chocolate Factory.
- Ashely Grimaldi and Amy donated gift bags for Wheatfield Commons residents through their "Adopt a Grandparent" program.
- Ron and Amy from SERVPRO of Eastern Niagara County made a difference at Wheatfield Commons by supplying ornaments and hooks, a star for the tree, and donuts for staff.
- The Fortuna Family gifted staff of Wheatfield Commons a delicious tin of cookies.
- The Hughes family surprised Wheatfield Commons with adorable handmade gnomes as well as pens, eye masks and candy.

Stay tuned for more good news...

