

Hope



Alzheimer's
Center

Illuminations

Summer 2008

Upcoming Events

Sept. 25, 2008

Join us for the
Building Hope
Soiree

Enjoy a great evening while supporting Hope. This elegant evening will feature live and silent auctions of marvelous things, music, wine, hors d'oeuvres and the opportunity to view and purchase participants' art work.

To learn more about the event, or find out how easy (and satisfying) it is to be a Soiree Sponsor, please visit us at www.HopeAlzheimerCenter.org

Hope's Garden is Growing Again

In early spring, a team of landscape and garden specialists took final measurements and designed an impressive layout for the Building Hope Brick Garden. The new garden will feature beautiful beds of perennial flowers and shrubs, brick trimmed walkways, and park benches.

*"He who plants a tree
plants hope."*

Lucy Larcom, American poet

On April 25, the garden received a special gift from the City of Cranston – a Bradford Pear tree – in recognition of Arbor Day, a nationally-celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. This beautiful, spring-flowering tree was firmly planted in the rear courtyard by Mayor Michael Napolitano and a crew from North-Eastern Tree Service.

More recently, we received a large shipment of accessory items for the garden - wraparound benches and planters.

*"I never before knew the
full value of trees. Under
them I breakfast, dine,
write, read and receive my
company."*

Thomas Jefferson

Third President of the United States

There is still time to support the Brick Garden Campaign by endowing a brick, paver or other perma-



Steve Krohn, Co-founder of the New England Wine School in Bristol, and Ellena DelBonis, Development Coordinator for the Hope Alzheimer's Center, pose in front of an impressive showcase of fine wines prior to the start of the Center's first ever "Wine Regions of the World" tasting.

The Hope Alzheimer's Center Uncorks the Month of May with its First Ever Wine Tasting

What does Rhode Island have in common with New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Australia, California, Italy and Spain? Wines from each of these places were enjoyed at the Hope Center's first ever "Wine Regions of the World" wine tasting held on May 1. The fundraising event drew over 75 guests, including some new visitors, to the Center.

A "world tour"

Guests received an itinerary which outlined the evening's world tour, wine selections and even included a wine quiz (fortunately with answers.) Both the experienced wine connoisseurs and the untrained wine tasters enjoyed the quiz and learned some interesting and practical wine facts.

Did you know that the optimal cellaring time for the vast majority of wines is 5 minutes? That's right, these days over 95% of wines are made to drink right now and do

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Brighter Hours • Fuller Days • Richer Lives

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First Ever Wine Tasting

not improve with age. Many guests were seen checking the answer key for this question.

Presented by experts

The tasting showcase was presented by Steve Krohn, co-founder with his wife, Debra, of the New England Wine School in Bristol. Guests sampled wines from around the world including Rhode Island's own Newport Vineyards *In the Buff No Oak Chardonnay*.

All of the wines for this event were generously donated by John Rossi, owner of Phred's Drug, and are available for purchase at the store located on Oaklawn Avenue in Cranston.

"Dress Down" donation

Hope Center's Executive Director Cynthia Conant-Arp received a pleasant surprise during her welcoming remarks.

Representing the office of the Rhode Island Secretary of State A. Ralph Mollis, Ms. Tracey Crose presented Ms. Conant-Arp with a check for \$786 made out to the Hope Center.

Employees at the Secretary of State's office contributed money to participate in "Dress Down Fridays" during the first three months of 2008, and selected the Hope Center for their charitable giving.

"This gift reflects the generous spirit of the Rhode Island community," said Ms. Conant-Arp. "Our friends and neighbors in Cranston and beyond are willing to roll up their sleeves, or in this particular case, to dress down to support a program they believe is helping families and their loved ones optimize their health and enjoyment despite the challenges of memory loss."

- Candid Moments at Hope -



Hope Center participant Antonetta "Toni" King (right) gets a warm birthday hug from fellow participant Georgia Lysikatos. In May, Toni celebrated her 80th birthday in style at the Hope Center. Her family surprised Toni with a delicious cake and singing birthday-gram from Ballooney Tunes in North Providence.

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Hope Alzheimer's Center

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Executive Director

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Soiree up next

Hope's next big event is our largest fundraiser of the year, the Building Hope Soiree, set for Thursday, September 25. Come join us for an elegant evening featuring live and silent auctions, fine hors d'oeuvres, wines, desserts, music, and beautiful artwork. Proceeds will help support the therapeutic services and programs at the Hope Alzheimer's Center.

For more event details or to learn about sponsorship opportunities for the *Building Hope Soiree*, please visit our web site at www.HopeAlzheimersCenter.org.



Sampling a selection of fine wines from around the globe are (l-r) Norma "Sue" Ranone; Linda Finn; and Richard Ranone, a member of the Hope Center Board of Directors.



Wine tasting guest Robert McGreen carefully reviews his choices at the "Mystery in a Bottle" wine table. For a contribution to the Hope Alzheimer's Center, guests were able to select a fine bottle of wine with a sealed envelope that held a mystery prize ranging in value from \$20 to \$100.

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Hope's Garden is Growing Again

nent garden ornament. All of these garden items can be inscribed in honor or memory of a loved one. For more information, please contact Development Coordinator Ellena DelBonis at (401) 946-9220, extension 19, or complete the online order form at www.HopeAlzheimersCenter.org.

Special thanks to Ellena DelBonis, Jean Lehman, Rich Ranone, Richard Cardillo and Walter Lada for leading this effort.



Hope participants seated (l-r) enjoy the Arbor Day festivities including Peter DiPiro, Cosmo Montaquila, Elena DiLustro, Edith Reilly, Mary Meiller, and Pat Carpinelli. Standing (l-r) are Richard Cardillo, Hope Center Development Committee member and family caregiver; Luisa Hernandez, Hope Center Program Coordinator; Cranston Mayor Michael Napolitano; and Christine Reid and Kim Vadenais, Hope Center Nursing Assistants.

- Candid Moments at Hope -



Participants Mary Meiller (left) and Delores Teixeira enjoy the sunshine last March.

Calling all Heroes of Hope

This summer, the Hope Center would like to share these words from a great American with our readers:

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by the dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."

That's Teddy Roosevelt speaking at the Sorbonne in 1910, but he could have just as easily been speaking to all of us today. We are inviting you to use a portion of your time, special talent, and treasure to help the Hope Center be even greater ... and be one of our many *Heroes of Hope!*

Below is a list of ways you can get involved and be a hero for our adult day participants and their families. Just donating a small portion of your time – an hour or two – can make a big difference in the lives of our participants. For more information, please contact Development Coordinator Ellena DelBonis at (401) 946-9220, extension 19.

BE A HERO OF HOPE...

Ways to Volunteer:

- Fundraising events
- Assist with our adult day programs
- Provide a professional service
- General office help
- Share a talent or hobby with our participants

Ways to Donate:

- Contributions
- Sponsorships
- Matching Gifts
- United Way
- Memorial Donations
- In Honor of Donations
- Planned Giving
- Prize Donation for Events
- Donate a Service as a Fundraising Prize
- Corporate Giving Programs
- Host an Event to Benefit the Hope Center
- Through Foundations, Membership and Civic Organizations

Generations Apart ... Close in Heart

By Matt Biagioni



Honorable, brave, mischievous, athletic, and loyal are a just a few words to describe Cosmo Montaquila, shown here in his WWII uniform.

Born in 1919, Cosmo Montaquila's early years were shaped by America's Great Depression and World War II. He was only 10 years old when the United States stock market crashed and the nation spiraled into an economic depression. Cosmo vividly recalls this difficult time in American history. While he saw many of his neighbors lose their jobs and go hungry, Cosmo says his family was lucky. "My father kept working during this hard time and we always had food on the table and warm shelter." Occasionally, Cosmo would even sneak into the basement and drink right out of the barrel some wine that his father had made.

Baseball and mischief

During his teen years, Cosmo played baseball and football and admitted to getting into mischief. Oftentimes, his uncle would drop him off at the front door of school and Cosmo would go out the back door. Instead of going to class, he remembers going downtown with his friends to see a movie or just hang out around the city. Cosmo said skipping school eventually caught up with him. He did not earn enough credit to graduate from high school.

Dreams deferred

After his school years, Cosmo dreamed of following in his father's footsteps and working in a lumberyard. However, World War II had begun and he was drafted by the U.S. Army. He attended boot camp at Fort Devens in Massachusetts and

later was stationed in Hawaii. Cosmo remembers how emotional it was to leave his family. "I will never forget the day I left home to go to Fort Devens," says Cosmo. "My parents were so proud of me, but they were scared and sad too, and, so was I." While at Fort Devens, Cosmo says he made many life-long friends and came to appreciate his mother's home cooking.

Cosmo served in Hawaii for three years during World War II. His primary job was to fix the big artillery guns.



Show & Tell...Matt Biagioni thanks Cosmo Montaquila for sharing his heroic wartime story and mementos from World War II. A long time participant at the Hope Center, Cosmo recently celebrated his 89th birthday.

Although Cosmo does not recall the precise location in Hawaii where his troop was stationed, he remembers that the camp was in the middle of pineapple fields. "We would eat the delicious fruit and then put the top of the pineapple stalk back in the field," Cosmo says with a twinkle in his eye.

During his years of service, Cosmo was awarded the Good Conduct Badge. After his discharge from the Army, Cosmo returned home to Rhode Island and got his dream job – a position at the waterfront lumberyard in Providence.

Two of a kind

Even though Cosmo is 70 years older than me and was a teenager decades ago, we are alike in many ways. Once again, we are living in an uncertain economic time and our great country is at war. Like Cosmo, I am "lucky" to have a supportive family and a comfortable home. I too enjoy playing sports, watching movies and having fun with my friends. During my interview with Cosmo, I told him that I had not missed one day of school in the tenth grade and that I planned to graduate from high school and go to college (unless the draft is reinstated and our country is still at war in Iraq). With a wide smile, Cosmo touched my hand and said, "That is a good plan. I'm proud of you!"

About the author: Matt Biagioni, 16, just completed the 10th grade at Cranston East High School and has volunteered at the Hope Alzheimer's Center since February of this year.

Matt learned about Hope Center from Christine Reid, a Nursing Assistant here and was eager to help since his grandfather's Alzheimer's Disease has given him a real understanding of how the disease affects people and their families.

Matt interviewed Cosmo for "Illuminations" in celebration of Memorial Day.



Hands of Hope

Thank You...

...to the kind people who made donations to the Hope Center between April and June 2008.

If you would like to make a donation, please complete the form below.

Donations in Memory

In Memory of Anthony Bizzaco

Robert & Jana Gillette
Barbara Madden
Emelio & Helen Modelane
Evelyn & Richard Saccoccia

In Memory of Verlin Clark

Barbara Veznaian

In Memory of Nora Coletta

Cumberland Beagle Club

In Memory of Fannie DeLuca

Domenic DeLuca

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Dorothy J. Hendrickson

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Patricia and Kenneth Hendrickson

In Memory of Agnes Payton

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In Memory of Josephine Salzillo

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Donations in Honor

In Honor of Viola DiFusco

Joseph DiFusco & Family
Marieann DuCharme

In Honor of Frank Horton

Evelyn Horton

In Honor of John Smith

Elaine & Ed Lariviere, III

2007 Holiday Appeal

Joseph & Carmela Meyers

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Please clip and send to Hope Alzheimer's Center
25 Brayton Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

Help Us Make Days Brighter

Please join us in making days brighter for people with Alzheimer's and related conditions by joining Friends of Hope and/or making a gift to help our work.

YES I'd like to join Friends of Hope Alzheimer's Center
(no donation required)

Enclosed is my gift in the amount of \$_____

Please make check payable to Hope Alzheimer's Center

Please charge my Visa Master Card

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

(Optional) I would like to make my gift in:

Memory of / Honor of (Name) _____

Support of Hope's Therapeutic Programs

Please send a card acknowledging my gift to:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

THANK YOU!

Illuminations

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Paula Heiss

- Candid Moments at Hope -



Staff member Jamie Fournier, NA, recently captured this candid moment during Men's Club at the Hope Center. Cranston resident Peter DiPiro takes a break from his craft project to smile for the camera. He has been a participant since January of this year

Hope's Men's Club invites participants to enjoy the companionship of other men while engaging in activities like woodworking, baking and crafts. The men in the Club also eat lunch together.

United Way Designation # 4839

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