

The HEALING SPIRIT

NOTRE DAME HEALTH CARE

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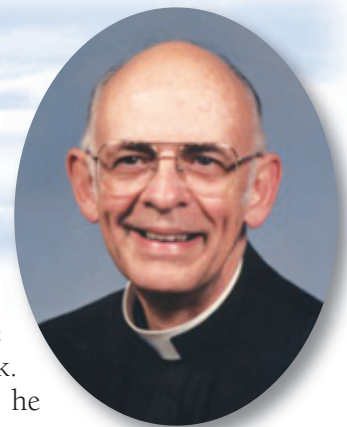
SPRING 2019



IN MEMORIAM

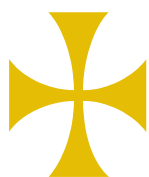
FATHER CORNELIUS (Connie) F. O'LEARY

AUGUST 19, 1929 – FEBRUARY 7, 2019



His Impact on Notre Dame du Lac

By Sister Sandra Maria Napier, SNDdeN



Father Cornelius O'Leary retired, as Pastor, from St. Martin Parish in Otter River, in 2004. In the days following, he became a resident at Notre Dame du Lac Assisted Living Residence.

Several priests, both from the Diocese and two Assumptionists, were on a rotating schedule to celebrate daily Mass. Soon Fr. O'Leary was included in the rotation. He prepared a homily every day, just in case the assigned priest was unable to come.

As the years went on, more men became part of the community here. Some came as widowers and some became widowers because their wives passed away after they had come here together. Thus, the idea of the "Men's Breakfast or Lunch" became a reality. Father O'Leary would be right there at the head of the table. One day, I happened to be walking by them, as they were having lunch. Not a word was being spoken. I commented to Father that no one was speaking. He quickly responded, "We talk to each other, 'Pass the salt!'"

Very soon, Father O'Leary was looked upon as "our Pastor," a priest to his fingertips, always in his clerics, a gentleman and a gentle man. We knew it was summer when he changed from the black shirt to the light blue shirt. He was one of our confes-

sors, he was sought after for spiritual advice and he anointed us when we celebrated the Anointing of the Sick. He lifted every one's spirits when he would sing on the elevator. The songs ranged from "Tantum Ergo" to "She'll be Coming 'Round the Mountain," and everything in between. When things got dull in the dining room, he would just burst into song and we would join in. His musical talent was put into use when he joined the cast of a musical review of old time Broadway hits. He attended every birthday party and musical entertainment.

These were all wonderful blessings for us. However, the greatest blessing for this community was this: Father O'Leary's apartment was situated on the fourth floor with a very clear view of the front entrance. If he saw an ambulance come in, any time of the day or night, he would come down to the foyer, holy water in hand, and wait for the person to be brought down. He would not only bless the patient, he would also bless the EMTs. One day, as I was witnessing all of this, one of the EMTs, after placing the patient in the ambulance came back into the building to thank him. He made such an impression, that former EMTs, now nurses at St. Vincent's Hospital, still ask about him.

Also, it is our tradition both here and at our Long Term Care Center, that when a resident passes away, all available staff and residents who are able, gather on the first floor. When the undertaker has the deceased prepared, they come down to the first floor. Father O'Leary would be right there to comfort the family and to say the prayers over the deceased before those of us who were gathered would escort him/her out to the hearse.

Thank you, Father O'Leary. We miss having you among us. We know you are in a better place, where there is no more pain or suffering.

For additional stories and information, please visit our website notredamehealthcare.org and like us on Facebook.

du Lac Assisted Living Happenings

Open House — In March, Notre Dame du Lac Assisted Living Residence staff welcomed our community referring partners to enjoy a tour of the newly renovated third floor communal areas, hors d'oeuvres, and experience the Notre Dame mission. Over 25 community partners joined us that evening, learning more about our community offerings, and meeting the staff and current residents. It was a wonderful success and we look forward to hosting many more open houses in the near future!



du Lac resident, Diane Tyler with volunteer, Melinda Lugo

Volunteer Breakfast

We hosted our annual Volunteer Breakfast in April at du Lac to appreciate and honor the dozens of volunteers who support our work in every service area of Notre Dame Health Care. These kind and compassionate individuals make a huge difference in the lives of those we serve and help support our staff to ensure we are always prepared. Attendees were presented with pins and spring flowers. We are so very grateful for the extraordinary gifts these amazing people bring to our work!

Are You Ready to De-Clutter?

Notre Dame du Lac Activities Department is having a Jewelry Drive! We are looking for usable costume jewelry for our 2019 Holiday Fair. Please consider donating to us as you clean your jewelry boxes this spring. Donations can be dropped off at du Lac Assisted Living Residence at 555 Plantation Street, Worcester (ATTN: Activities Department). These donations will be a part of our annual Residents' Council Holiday Fair which raises funds to support special activities for our residents. Feel free to email Denise for details dcarrroll@notredamehealthcare.org.

Across Campus Happenings

Like Us, Follow Us, and Tune In . . .

We love to share all of the wonderful things happening around campus.

We invite you to get "social" with us — "like" us on Facebook (@NotreDameHealthCare) for regular updates on what we are doing; and "follow" us on Twitter (@NDHCMission) to see how our mission is being lived out on campus. You can also listen to us on Emmanuel Radio with our new program *Mapping Your Healthcare Journey* featuring ongoing conversations with staff from all of our services!



A Special Visitor to Notre Dame Health Care

We were recently honored by a special visit from Sr. Liliane Sweko, SNDdeN, a member of the Congregational Leadership Team. Sr. Liliane toured our campus and learned first-hand about what we are doing in each of our divisions to continue the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. She concluded her visit with a presentation to the Sisters on campus about the state of the Congregation today as well as information on the importance of the *Clean Water Project* the Sisters in Africa are involved in to provide clean water in their schools, clinics and hospitals. She was happy to learn that our campus was raising awareness and funds for this project during Lent. As she left our campus, she said that St. Julie "is very much alive here!"



Sr. Liliane Sweko, SNDdeN (4th from right) with our At Home staff

The Healing Spirit is published as a service to the community.

EDITORS: Cathy Smith and Paige Thayer

NOTRE DAME HEALTH CARE

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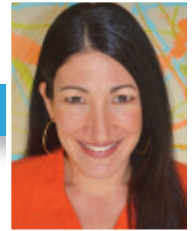


Educational Bridge Center Happenings



Save the Date!

2019 EDUCATION FORUM



We are thrilled to announce the date for our annual Educational Forum, our fundraising event to support the educational mission of Notre Dame Health Care. This year's event will be held on Wednesday, **October 16, 2019** from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Hogan Center at the College of the Holy Cross. The evening begins with a reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres, raffles, mingling and music; followed by our program (including dessert!) Our featured speaker is **Tessa Todd Morgan**, an expert on wellness and mindfulness from Texas who has presented around the country and

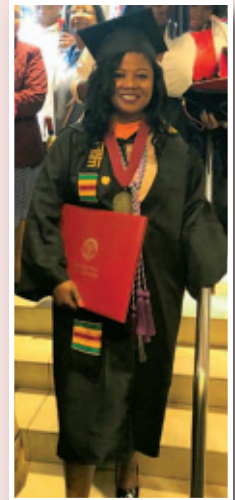
featured on TED Talks. She will present on Mindfulness with her presentation **Find Your Triessence: A mindfulness journey for a joyful and fulfilling life**. Attendees will learn how to recognize and eliminate both active and passive self-sabotage, re-ignite professional passion, and identify action steps for achieving the goals in life you want to accomplish. Tessa shares the tools and techniques she has learned along her journey in finding true joy and fulfillment in her life – physical, mental, and spiritual balance. Sponsorship opportunities and individual seating are available. Please visit our website for details; or email pthayer@notredamehealthcare.org.

Celebrating 15 Years of Educating for Life . . .

We are so grateful for the generous support of all who help us fulfill our educational mission. For 15 years we have helped students in many different ways. Thank you, on behalf of:

- Our HiSET students who obtain the skills and confidence to apply for jobs that require a high school diploma.
- Our *English for the Workplace* students who work to improve their English to get a better job and reach their career goals.
- Students who utilize our Center for a safe place to study to complete their school assignments and access our computer lab and free WiFi.
- Students who have benefited from services offered through our *Sister Helen Wright Citizenship Program*. More than 156 individuals have received counseling, tutoring, test preparation assistance and financial support covering application fees so they can become U.S. Citizens.
- Students who were able to double their salaries by moving up a nursing "career ladder."
- Students who received assistance with transferring their credentials from other countries in order to continue their careers here in the U.S.
- Students who received thousands of tutoring hours provided by our Tutors, many of whom are Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and residents at our du Lac Assisted Living Residence.

- Students who have received assistance in applying for, and receiving, thousands of dollars in scholarship support from a variety of sources.
- Students whose confidence and networking abilities have grown as a result of our career counseling assistance, and are now pursuing their dreams.
- Students who have increased their skills in order to provide the very best care to our residents.



Our work is possible thanks to the support of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Notre Dame Health Care, individuals, businesses, and foundations that support our work every year. These ongoing gifts are so appreciated and are an investment in the current and future students we are honored to serve and help achieve their educational and career goals.



Caitlin Sargent Lubelczyk,
President of the Emerald Club,
MariAnn Paladino, and
Rosanna Paladino-Swillo,
Board Member, Emerald Club

Long Term Care Happenings

The Emerald Club Honored MariAnn Paladino



We were thrilled to celebrate MariAnn Paladino, Director of Admissions and Marketing for Notre Dame's Long Term Care and Rehabilitation Center, as she was presented with the 2019 *Cathy Donahue Service Award* by the Emerald Club at their March Gala. The award is named in honor of MariAnn's own cousin, one of Worcester's favorite "Irish daughters," who was taken home to God very young but left a legacy of love and volunteerism behind. It is presented to an individual who exemplifies Cathy's life mission, someone who seeks out opportunities for giving and provides an example to all of us of the goodness of life lived in service to others. The community is fortunate to have benefited from MariAnn's countless service activities such as fundraising to support the Mercy Centre through her work with the Emerald Club; teaching CCD to high school students, participating on the Parish Council and serving as a Eucharistic Minister at her beloved St. Columba Church; supporting the Mustard Seed project and much, much, more. Her selfless work in service to others is a beautiful gift to all who know her. At Notre Dame Health Care we are so blessed to have her as a valued member of our team!

Resident Lenten Project

As part of the practice of almsgiving during Lent, the residents at Long Term Care decided to reach out to St. Francis Xavier Center in Worcester to offer assistance to their outreach programs for the hungry and poor. The Center's program feeds about 500 hungry people a day, 5 days a week. This year our residents baked bread, created "blessing bags" (bags of toiletries) and delivered the items to the food bank. Both communities were touched and enriched by this experience as residents could see the impact they were making in the lives of others and living the prayer of St. Francis, "for it is in giving that we receive."

Summer Resident Art Exhibit

We look forward to hosting our Annual Resident Art Exhibit at our Long Term Care (LTC) and Rehabilitation Center on July 19. The event is held in our courtyard and features music and refreshments along with the opportunity to view the beautiful artwork created by our LTC residents. You may even have a chance to meet the artist! Our residents work hard throughout the year to prepare for this special exhibit. We will be finalizing the details soon and will post it on our Facebook page as well as our website. This is a wonderful event enjoyed by our residents, their families and our staff.

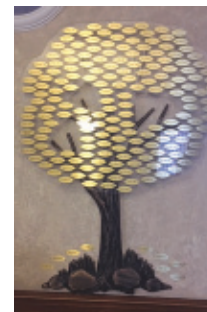


Welcome New Director of Mission Integration Michael Randone

Mike is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross. He previously worked in the funeral business and also served for twelve years as chaplain at Notre Dame's St. Julie Billiart Residential Care Center in Ipswich. In this capacity, he learned firsthand about the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame to make God's goodness known to every person and the unique and inspiring charism of St. Julie Billiart. He joined Notre Dame Health Care as Director of Mission Integration in January 2019. In this role, he provides leadership to employees in the areas of mission, ethics, and spiritual integration to help ensure a mission centered organizational culture.

Tribute Giving

Remember and honor a loved one with an inscribed leaf on one of our *Trees of Life*. Located in the vestibule of the Notre Dame du Lac Chapel and coming soon to our Long Term Care and Rehabilitation Center. By request, and with your gift of \$250 or more, we will inscribe a "bronze leaf" in memory or honor of someone special in your life and it will be placed on one of our "trees." For details, please contact pthayer@notredamehealthcare.org.



At Home — Hospice & Pedi Pals — Happenings



Jarryd M. Blanchard Earns Special Nursing Certification

Jarryd M. Blanchard, BSN, RN, CT, CHPN, CHPPN, our PediPals Nurse Case Manager recently earned his Certified Hospice and Palliative Pediatric Nurse (CHPPN), a specialty credential which indicates a nurse is knowledgeable and qualified to provide a high caliber of care by promoting improved quality of life for the pediatric population throughout their diagnosis as well as at end-of-life. Currently,

Jarryd is one of only two nurses in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts actively holding this certification.

Tracy Larson-Benvenuti Graduates from Leadership Academy

Tracy Larson-Benvenuti, MSW, LICSW, ACHP-SW, our Director of Psychosocial Services/Pedi Pals, recently graduated from LeadingAge's Leadership Academy. This intense, year-long leadership development program provides graduate level curriculum to help participants experience and understand both leadership theory and practice. The program is specifically designed to develop skills among professionals across the continuum of care and services. We are so proud of Tracy for her dedication to her profession and commitment to enhancing her strong leadership skills for the benefit of those we serve.



Susan Keefe, Exec. Director of Notre Dame At Home with Tracy & Patricia Thibeault, Marketing Director, Notre Dame At Home



We recently hosted our semi-annual Remembrance Ceremony to celebrate and honor the memories of those we have been honored to serve. Many families and loved ones joined us in our Chapel at du Lac Assisted Living for the special ceremony which included music, and special remarks by Sister Jon Julie Sullivan, SNDdeN. Our staff is always so happy to be able to reconnect with our families and friends to share stories and hugs with each other. It is a very special day and is an important part of our mission.



Kerri & Tamilyn

At Home Team Presents at Texas Conference

We love to be invited to share about our experiences! Notre Dame Health Care's music and massage therapists, **Tamilyn E. Little**, MT-BC, HPM(1) and **Kerri Padgett**, LMT recently presented a joint case study to participants of the National Pediatric Palliative Care Mid-Winter Conference on Pain Management at Cooks Children's Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas. Tami and Kerri conducted a session on "Disrupting Pain Through Sound and Touch."

Honoring Choices Massachusetts Provides Staff Training

Our At Home Division recently collaborated with Honoring Choices Massachusetts to bring a special training to our employees to learn about important health care planning conversations. *Honoring Choices Massachusetts* notes, "your plan is your road map which helps you get the best possible care that honors your care choices today and every day, all through your life." Staff learned about health care proxies and personal directives as critical and practical tools to ensure our healthcare decisions are documented to assist loved ones and caregivers in the event we are unable to make those decisions ourselves.



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Long Term Care Center

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CELEBRATING . . .

*Saint Julie
Billiard,
Fifty
Years
a Saint!*



In June we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the canonization of St. Julie Billiard, the foundress of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. In addition to weeklong events and activities for our residents and staff, including a staff service project, we will be commemorating the life and sainthood of this remarkable woman on **June 22** with a Mass at 10:00am in the du Lac chapel followed by a cookout in the Long Term Care Center's courtyard. St. Julie continues to shape our mission today and inspire us every day to share God's goodness with every resident, family, staff and visitor.

"How good is the good God!"

Please RSVP by June 7 to Judy
at jsmith@notredamehealthcare.org
or 508-852-5800, x3000.

LEGACY GIVING

Notre Dame Health Care has been honored and blessed to have received gifts from individuals who made plans to support our work beyond their own lifetime. We are humbled by these very thoughtful contributions.

Gifts made through a will, trust or beneficiary designation can have a tremendous impact at Notre Dame Health Care without affecting your current financial resources.



Please visit our website for information, or feel free to contact our Development Office at 508-852-5800, x2509.

JOIN US ON CAMPUS . . .

Educational Bridge Center Classes:

Contact Sue Strandberg, Program Manager
at 508-852-5800, X2504 to register.

- ▶ **May 15 through Aug. 14** (Wednesdays) 4 to 7pm
HiSET Preparation
- ▶ **May 16 through Aug. 15** (Thursdays) 4 to 6:30pm
English for the Workplace
- ▶ **July 19 OR Aug. 16** (9am to 5pm)
Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia Care (CDP) — \$150
- ▶ **June 24 OR July 22** (9am to 5pm)
ServeSafe Food Manager Certification — \$185
- ▶ **June 3 through July 29** (Mondays) 5 to 8pm
Math for Meds — \$300

Hospice Bereavement Support Group

Contact Peggye Arcouette, Bereavement coordinator
at 508-852-5505 for information.

Eucharistic Liturgy

- ▶ Notre Dame du Lac: Daily (except Sat.) at 10:30am
- ▶ Notre Dame Long Term Care Center: Daily at 10am