



# Scoops

The Newsletter of New England Village, Inc.

Summer 2007

## When Opportunity Knocks



624 School Street

Mark Twain once said: "I was seldom able to see an opportunity until it had ceased to be one." That was certainly not a viewpoint Executive Director Dr. Bryan Efron and New England Village's Board of Directors wanted to emulate when the Mackey home located at 624 School Street was recently put up for sale. Recognizing that this property could be an asset to our community in a variety of ways, New England Village entered into a purchase and sale agreement with the seller in June.

The 2500 square foot colonial-style home set on a 3.5 acre lot directly abuts our property behind the Sollar Wellness Center and there are plans to develop a pathway

connecting the property directly to our campus. The residence, which is in excellent condition, has 8 rooms and 2 full baths. The layout includes: 4 bedrooms/kitchen/living room/family room/office. Three bedrooms are located on the second floor and a fourth bedroom and office can be found on the third floor (note: we'll be dividing the current master bedroom into two good sized bedrooms creating 4 bedrooms on the second floor plus a potential 5th bedroom on the third ). The distance between this home and the Sheingold Building is actually less than the distance between the Red Cape and our administrative offices.

With a projected closing date of

July 24th, plans are underway to begin renovations in the summer/early fall 2007 timeframe to address the minor modifications that are necessary for Department of Mental Retardation licensing; we have a target occupancy date of spring 2008. The preferred model for this home would be a semi-independent living arrangement for women, comparable to the way our all male Red Cape is set-up today. A marketing plan for this new residency is underway, but as with any new home on campus, we will always evaluate our own residents first for appropriate placement.

624 School Street may have been an unexpected opportunity, but the new Smith Duplex is part of a 3-year master plan involving three homes and a

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## NEV Presents at the 23rd Annual DMR Human Rights Conference

Duplex House Manager Michael Gaffey and Apt. 6 resident Ken Delmonte were co-presenters at a DMR sponsored Human Rights Conference held at the DCU Center in Worcester on June 12th. It is the first time that New England Village has participated in this capacity. More than 1,000 people (service providers and the individuals they serve) attended the conference. The theme of the symposium was: "Making a Difference; Upholding human rights means listening to and understanding an individual's needs, wishes and dreams and helping that person reach their dreams. By respecting their voice and honoring its direction, we can

all do our part to make a difference in that person's life."

Speakers were selected through a proposal process. The title of Michael's workshop was "Just Say Yes: Empowering Action by Getting Out of the Way!" Mike believes that by taking simple steps and doing things on a local, daily basis, people can avoid the pitfalls of getting caught up in the worries of "what happens next" or "why it can't happen." His presentation focused on 3 case studies: 1) The creation of The Living Center (NEV's retirement program), born of the desire of a few individuals to participate in a more relaxed and enriching program as an alternative

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Bryan Efron, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

## The Executive Director's Perspective

In this edition of Scoops, you'll read about our future housing plans and see snapshots of the many enrichment opportunities we offer to the individuals who live at New England Village and participate in our day programs. I hope you will agree with me that New England

Village continues to be a thriving and vibrant community progressing in a number of positive ways.

All of what we accomplish requires ample financial resources. At their June meeting, the Village's Board of Directors adopted an operating budget for the Village's new fiscal year (FY'08 - which runs from July 1 through June 30). It's a solid operating budget which allows us to:

- maintain strong staffing ratios throughout all our homes and day programs
- support a comprehensive array of professional and clinical consultants
- employ staff in the areas of art, music, fitness, aquatics and recreation – positions seldom available at other human service organizations

Finally, and most importantly, this budget reaffirms our commitment to our most valuable asset - our hard-working

and dedicated staff.

We are very fortunate indeed; however, the Village's overall financial picture is not all positive. Almost all Village beds run at a deficit and we have not received a cost of living adjustment from the Department of Mental Retardation since 1989 (this is not a typo!) This year we incurred modest cuts in our day program contracts and the Village's operating deficit is growing significantly and most likely will continue on that trajectory.

What enables us to do so much despite these significant weaknesses? Absolutely essential to our present strong financial standing is the Village's endowment which, propelled by a multi-year robust stock market, is at an all time high. Also becoming more essential as each year passes is the success of the Village's annual appeal campaign.

Clearly, it's philanthropy that is the bedrock of our financial strength. Looking towards the future, our ability to sustain all our important commitments will require ever increasing financial resources. We cannot afford to become complacent. I am certain that philanthropy will continue to be the key to a healthy financial future for New England Village.

Wishing you all a pleasant and leisurely summer,

## Board News

*A warm welcome is extended to NEV's two newest board members who joined the Board of Directors in June:*

### T. Kenwood Mullare

Ken has worked in the field of developmental disabilities since the birth of his daughter - Fuller House resident Meg Mullare. He has served on State and nonprofit boards and provided legal, tax and business advice to nonprofit firms. He has represented organizations to regulatory bodies and legislators and to United Way. Ken has extensive experience advocating for human rights and spearheaded the formation of Friendship Home, a disabilities service provider.

### Sabrina H. Nicholson

Sabrina is a full-time mother to Abby (6) and Jake (3) and sister of Kyle Hundley, a New England Village Day Services participant. She holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and has previous experience working as a consultant for the Foundation Strategy Group which provides strategic consulting services to public and private foundations and as a Director of Investor Relations for Boston Scientific Corporation. She currently sits on the board of the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston.

*Sincere thanks go out to retiring board member Arnold Sollar for his years of board service to New England Village.*

## New England Village Board of Directors

Dr. Peter Braun

Esta-Jean Cahn

Diane Dufault

Robert Feldman

*Treasurer*

Margaret Gilbert

*Secretary*

Steven Kaitz

Dr. Carolyn S. Lilly

Ken Mullare

Sabrina H. Nicholson

Brian Shannahan

Barry Sheingold

Charles Volpetti

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James Zuckernik



# Scoops

*is now being published 2x a year.*

Stay up to date on Village happenings by subscribing to Village Connections our monthly electronic newsletter.

Just send your email address to [drezendes@newenglandvillage.org](mailto:drezendes@newenglandvillage.org) and we'll add you to our broadcast list.



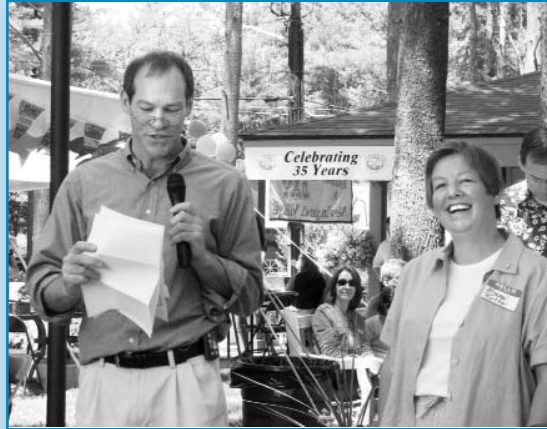
# Family Day Fiesta 2007

This year's Family Day offered a little something for everyone. The kids enjoyed face painting, balloon animals, crafts, games and clowns. A catered lunch with a Mexican flair was offered to our 500+ guests by Family Crest Catering and flamenco guitarist John Tavano provided the background music. One of the highlights of the day is always the sweepstakes drawing and everybody seemed thrilled when our own Stanley Kaitz won the grand prize!

The ideal weather and beautiful grounds was the perfect backdrop for a truly enjoyable day.

To view more pictures from the day including family photos, please visit our website at:  
[www.newenglandvillage.org/scrapbook.html](http://www.newenglandvillage.org/scrapbook.html)  
 and click on Family Day Fiesta 2007

35 Yr. residents Glenn Carey and Beth Sheingold cut the NEV 35th anniversary cake.



Above: Residential Director Rick Pittman presents Donna Burke with the Stuart Shapiro Humanitarian Award.



The Ray Family.



Makenzi Stoddard gets her face painted.



Right: Chairman of the Board Charles Volpetti congratulates Rita Limauro (l) and Liz Taft (r) on their 20 years at NEV.

# Sollar Wellness Center Program Notes

## Art Department Happenings

### Clay Program

It all began five years ago when the Village celebrated its 30 year anniversary... a Village-wide ceramic tile commemorative backsplash wall was created for what was the Sheingold Art Room (now the Business Office). The perfect home for the commemorative backsplash wall was realized when the art department moved to the Sollar Wellness Center. Every tour now includes a visit to the SWC art room with special recognition of the backsplash; have you found your child's, siblings or staff member's tile?

With great success, the Village's own kiln has been operational for over a year now. Art program participants from New England Village as well as the community have been busy creating everything from hand painted ceramic dinner



*Michael Hackmeyer at the potter's wheel.*

plates to hand sculpted birdhouses! The Residential Enrichment/Adult Education program and the Day Enrichment Program have been working with Art Director Melanie Rose-Zagwyn learning hand-building techniques and trying out the potter's wheel. Melanie has offered opportunities in clay and ceramics to the staff as well. The Pathways I program has been working for the

past year on creating food safe soup bowls as part of a donation program for a local homeless shelter. The Craft Creations program has been hand painting mugs for retail sale – many of which were sold at the Family Day festivities. The clay program has been an exciting and widely welcomed addition to the already vast array of enrichment offerings at New England Village.

### Collaborative Art Exhibit



*"Lighthouse" by Janice Hiatt.*

A collaboration of New England Village Resident and Craft Creations Artisans was on display at the Pembroke Public Library during the month of July. This exhibit featured watercolor and acrylic paintings, drawings, mixed media collages, and photography. ■

**Craft Creations**  
cards, candles and mugs are now being sold at

**The Hour Glass**

located at 184 Water Street  
*(directly across from The East Bay Grille)*  
in Plymouth, MA

**(508) 747-7654**

## Fitness

### Functional Fitness for Special Populations

On May 31st, The Sollar Wellness Center hosted a free Workshop entitled Functional Fitness for Special Populations. James M. Gleason, Licensed Physical Therapist and Kim Lowman, NEV Adaptive Fitness Instructor spoke to NEV and NEVDS staffers, families and caregivers from 9 other agencies



*Kim Lowman (standing) demonstrates some simple physical activities to staff.*

about how to improve overall health and wellbeing by incorporating simple physical activities and functional fitness routines into daily lives. All in attendance agreed that keeping functionally fit equals greater independence and a better quality of life. ■

## Residential Enrichment Program

### NEV Stingrays Do Swimmingly Well



*The NEV Stingrays.*

Practicing every Saturday since February 10th under the direction of volunteer Special Olympics Swim Coach Michele James, paid off big-time for the NEV Stingrays when they competed in the finals at Harvard University on June 16th and took home several gold medals. All the swimmers had qualified for the finals after competing in the pre-qualifier rounds on April 22nd at Bridgewater State College.

### The 9 NEV Residents who make up the team with their medal standings are:

- Marc Mueller - Gold aquatics walking
- Peter Burbank - Gold aquatics walking
- Kenny Delmonte - Gold 25 meter freestyle
- Carrie Wells - Gold 25 meter freestyle
- Donna Burke - Gold 25 meter freestyle
- Maryanne Cooney - Silver 25 meter freestyle
- Paul Beranger - Gold 25 meter floatation swim
- Patrick Murphy – Silver 25 meter floatation swim
- Mary Bastian - Silver 25 meter freestyle

Susannah Lockett, NEV’s Aquatic & Wellness Coordinator had this to say about the swim team: “I couldn’t be more proud of our team. The Stingrays practiced faithfully all winter and spring and their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication paid off. We are already looking forward to next year!”

Special thanks go out to Sunshine Pools for their donation of the fabulous swim team t-shirts. ■

## Day Enrichment Program

### A Well Traveled Group



*David Sera and Jessica Simoes with Kyra the Husky.*

For the past year, day enrichment participants have brought their imagination and zest for exploration to the Coast to Coast offering as they travel virtually to a different state each week. The group explores famous sites and



*Phil Soucar at the controls.*

attractions by learning what is unique to each state such as its cuisine, physical landscape, special events and more. Both participants and staff bring pictures and slides from their own travels as well as memorabilia they may have collected. Through discussions, state facts, trivia, hands on activities and local field trips, participants have the opportunity to thoroughly explore each state.

Some of the various cooking activities have included Texas Chili and making Alabama Spinach Balls. Everyone enjoyed peeling and slicing peaches and measuring ingredients for some famous Georgia Peach Cobbler as well.

Through various art mediums such as drawing, painting, and sculpting, participants have been able to create a lighthouse out of clay, design and decorate masks and beaded necklaces to celebrate Mardi Gras and reconstruct a California suspension

# Employment Supports

## Things are Working out for Allan and Sandy



*Allan Feldman*

Nine months ago, Joan Smith was hired to be in charge of finding competitive placements for job ready individuals. As Joan says, "It is extremely rewarding when it works, but it certainly is a challenge." We work hard to find companies supportive of our programs, matching the jobs to an employee's abilities and interests and meeting the transportation requirements. When it all comes together, as it did for Allan Feldman and Sandy Young, everyone celebrates. Allan even kindly offered to, "hook Bryan Efron up with a job at Kohls".

Allan Feldman was employed at Sears for two years and loved it. When he was laid-off he was extremely disappointed and often said how much he wanted to work again in the retail sector. Joan took Allan out a few times to do job tours at the Mall and other retail locations. Applications were filled out and management was informed about Allan's previous work experience. He was very excited to get a formal interview at Sears, but that did not

produce a job offer. Allan was disappointed about not landing that job, but it was a learning experience and Joan helped him to focus on the positive experience gained from the Sears interview. Joan and Allan had an informal tour at Kohls in Pembroke, filled out a job application and after a few follow-up phone calls, an interview was scheduled. Joan did some preparation work (mock interview) with Allan to prepare him for the interview and wrote down some possible interview questions with answers on an index card for him to review at home. He was prepared both in his appearance and attitude for the interview, although he was nervous. Joan assisted Allan during the interview process, bringing out his positive traits and past work experiences, which was very similar to the job he was applying for. Allan was offered the position during the interview and he gladly accepted. Allan has been working as a Warehouse Worker/Truck Processor since April 17th and he loves to get up early to get ready for work a few days per week. He is now known as "Mr. Kohls" and carries that name with pride. Allan recently spoke to his peers at a Job Readiness class about his job duties and the co-workers who are very supportive of him. He loved sharing his story!

Sandy Young had previous experience at Stop & Shop and she was interested in returning to work at a supermarket. She and Joan had a tour at the local Shaw's in Hanson, spoke with management and filled out an online application. Landing a job at Shaw's required much persistence and after many phone calls, and on-site visits with management, they called for an



*Sandy Young*

interview. Joan assisted Sandy during her interview and both supervisors were extremely supportive throughout the process. Consequently, Sandy was offered a job as Front End Bagger. She started on June 5th and has been handling additional responsibilities such as carts and stocking shelves. Sandy's supervisors are very impressed with how well she has done in such a short period of time. She only needed one day of training instead of the typical two days. Sandy was very excited to receive her first pay check from Shaw's. She has a full schedule between enrichment, work center responsibilities and her competitive job. She is responsible about obtaining her weekly schedule and communicating this with her case manager.

Both companies employ other individuals with disabilities and are very supportive. It's very rewarding to see how Allan and Sandy's self esteem has improved and how open they are about discussing their jobs with peers and staff. ■

# A Real Gem



*Around the table (left to right) Lisa Brown, Cheryl Bleakney (staff), Danielle Sherman (staff) Standing: Susan Meikleham Production Manager at EK Designs, Regina Diener.*

Elizabeth Kissick, owner and founder of ek Designs in Cohasset began her jewelry making business in 1994. Now her jewelry is sold in more than 60 stores nationwide, and she has designed bracelets for Laura Bush and Kate Bosworth.

At the work center we are always looking for new markets and sources

of interesting and fulfilling work for the individuals we serve. Beading seemed like a possible fit so we contacted Elizabeth to explore a relationship with her company. Elizabeth wrote back immediately and said how excited she was to explore the possibilities.

Employment Specialist Cheryl Bleakney, program participant Robert Worden, and Director of Employment Supports Rick Moulton were invited to sit down with their production manager Susan Meikleham at their Cohasset office to explore working together. Everything fell into place and on Tuesday, Susan came to our facility with bracelet kits in hand to train the staff and individuals who are excited to take on this new job.

The kits include a sample bracelet and all the necessary beads in numbered containers. We learned how to crimp the bracelets and worked with close to a dozen program participants in the beading

process. The sample was replicated and a partnership is underway. ek Designs’ busiest period comes during our slowest time. The vocational training provided by this type of work is unique, labor intensive, and very interesting.

It definitely falls into our goal of providing fulfilling work opportunities.

Elizabeth and Susan have found their company growing so quickly they needed outside assistance. We were at the right place at the right time. As Elizabeth said, sometimes things like this are just meant to happen. Elizabeth strives to put meaning into her jewelry. Much of it has been based upon jewelry with the ribbon which is the universal symbol for battling disease. Providing jobs for our disabled individuals at our work center certainly adds to that meaning.

*To learn more about ek Designs or to view their jewelry collection visit [www.ekdesignsjewelry.com](http://www.ekdesignsjewelry.com). ■*

## Notes from TLC

### Chef Shirley

TLC Cooking Class participants recently presented “Chief Chef” Shirley Maher with a special thank-you present for all her wonderful and inspired recipes – an apron designed by TLC staffer Donna Guevremont and decorated with signed thumbprints from class participants. The group really enjoyed working on the project and Shirley sure looks good in that apron!



*“Chef” Shirley Maher.*

Now all TLC participants can reach out and touch their loved ones electronically!

### Family Day “Team of the Year”

TLC program members were recognized at this year’s Family Day celebration as recipients of the “Team of the Year” award. This award recognizes day service participants who have demonstrated exemplary team work and leadership in achieving a shared goal. Congratulations to a well deserving group! ■



*Family Day “Team of the Year.”*



*Sisters Sarah DeCew and Margy Watson.*

# Staff and Resident News

## Lending a Hand



Linda Braccia and one of her new friends in Honduras.

Two NEV employees recently embarked on charitable excursions demonstrating that their caring natures extend well beyond the walls of New England Village. Pathways staff member Linda Braccia and SWC Director Lisa Drennan traveled respectively to Honduras and West Virginia to lend a helping hand to some folks who needed it.

**Michael Burke**, Director of Day Habilitation Services, recently sat down with Linda to recount her time in Honduras, a time that she admits was emotional on many levels.

What made you decide to go to Honduras with your church?

*Towards the end of last year, my husband and I were joking around saying that we should quit our jobs and be missionaries. Several weeks later, we read an item in our church bulletin (Holy Family Church in Rockland) calling for volunteers for a missionary trip to Honduras. I was drawn to it. It was something I needed to do.*

You had heard stories about the village you were going to be going to, but what were you really expecting to see when you got there?

*I knew we would be walking into*

*poverty. But what I didn't expect to see was how wonderful the schools really were. They were as nice as a lot of grammar schools you see here.*

Were your expectations anything close to reality?

*I really didn't know what to expect. I just went with an open mind. After the initial shock of being there, it was just like being with friends you have known forever.*

Describe the village in Honduras that you were staying in?

*Where we stayed was more like a compound of houses. We were lucky; the house we stayed in had running water, which is a luxury down there. There were seven of us in the house I stayed in. The whole area was gated and guarded.*

Describe the school you were helping out?

*Most of our time was spent at the special needs school, painting it. It was open with a courtyard...it was clean, had a gym and a kitchen. One of the main activities that they did in the school was put together bags of spices to sell to bring money into the school. They would crush the various spices, make the cellophane bags and then heat seal the bags.*

*Continued on page 9*



### Carol Vienneau

In June, Carol Vienneau was appointed House Manager of the Watson Home. Prior to accepting the House

Manager's position, Carol had worked as the Enrichment Assistant in the Residential Enrichment Program since December 2003. Congratulations and best of luck in your new job Carol!



### Welcome to NEV

A warm welcome goes out to Julie Morse and her family. Julie became the

newest NEV resident when she moved into House 4 in May. Julie grew up in Ashland and lived there with her family before moving to New England Village. She has two older sisters and enjoys vacationing with them at her family's summer home on Cape Cod. We are thrilled that Julie is part of our community!

## Leave a Lasting Legacy

Remember New England Village in your will or estate plan.

Your gift can help ensure that New England Village will always be a place where people with developmental disabilities can thrive and grow.

For more information about bequests or other planned giving opportunities, please contact

**Dolores Rezendes**

Director of Development  
(781) 293-5461 x107

[drezendes@newenglandvillage.org](mailto:drezendes@newenglandvillage.org)

# Staff and Resident News

## The Village Teams up with Wellspring Farm

On July 11th, the Village began a 10-week equestrian program at the Wellspring Farm Learning Center in Rochester, MA. This collaboration offers a unique opportunity for residents to participate in a program that is much more than just horseback riding. The agenda is designed to use the farm experience to teach life skills and self-awareness. The following NEV residents are enrolled in the current session: Paige Belmonte, Michael Hackmeyer, John Koechlin, Rita Limauro, Marc Mueller, David Sollar and Elizabeth Taft.

Each member “adopts” a horse for the entire program. Over time, individuals develop a personal relationship with his/her equine companion and experience a full range of horsemanship activities. While feeding, walking and caring for the horse, they learn how to use the tools and equipment necessary for grooming and riding, such as brushes, saddles, bits, reins, etc. In addition, the farm also houses goats, sheep and even a



*Rick Pittman, David Sollar and Mike Mullin get acquainted with one of the horses.*

Vietnamese pot belly pig!

Environmental learning opportunities are also made available through the use of the adjacent Hiller Farm Conservation Land. This allows individuals to learn about the area wildlife and plants through nature walks and horseback rides.

Wellspring Farm is operated by Jim and Holly Vogel. Jim has worked in the field of disabilities for over 30 years, while Holly is a former teacher. Together with their daughter and son-in-law (who are very accomplished riders and avid naturalists), they provide professional supervision and instruction.

If you have any questions about the Wellspring Farm program, please contact Rick Pittman, Director of Residential and Professional Services, (781) 293-5461 x104, rpittman@newenglandvillage.org. ■

## Lending a Hand

*Continued from previous page.*

How did you feel about the disabled population there – are they given the same opportunities as those here in Massachusetts?

*The individuals at the school – yes; however, there were others that we had no idea about because they were hidden.*

What one idea did you leave with them that, if you were to go back tomorrow you would hope to see them working on?

*I don't know if I left them with a particular idea as such, but I definitely think that we all left a part of us there, as well as brought a part of them back home with us*

What did you personally learn from this trip?



*Lisa Drennan's work crew.*

*Despite the incredible poverty, the dirt, the trash, the animals everywhere, these people are extremely happy... they have a lot of pride and faith.*

Do you want to go back?

*I can't wait to go back!*

Lisa Drennan was also deeply moved by her experience. On June 23rd, Lisa and her 15-year-old daughter Kate, joined a group of

eighteen people from the First Church in Pembroke to embark on a journey to the Cabell-Lincoln Work Camp in West Virginia. This group joined up with over 200 other high school students and adults who spent a week

repairing and fixing homes in the poverty stricken Appalachian area.

Lisa, along with her crew leader and four high school students built an accessible ramp for an elderly woman who had recently had a stroke and will need to use a wheelchair. Other crews, including Kate's, worked on projects like roofing, outhouses, siding, painting, electrical and plumbing installation, porch, foundation and general indoor/outdoor home repair. The purpose of these projects is to repair homes so they are warm, secure, safe and dry.

“This experience was life altering and I have committed to returning each year. Being part of this really puts things into perspective, and is a reminder that we shouldn't take for granted what we have, where we live or the simple freedoms and choices available to us.”

Linda and Lisa are an inspiration to all of us and an example of how giving to others enriches the lives of everyone involved. ■

# A Well Traveled Group

Continued from page 5



The group poses in front of one of the airplanes.

bridge from toothpicks and marshmallows. The group also “visited” Kitty Hawk, North Carolina where Orville and Wilbur Wright flew the first powered airplane, so a visit to the Plymouth Airport seemed rather fitting. Everyone was treated to a tour of the maintenance shop and when brought out onto the runways, members were able to sit in a small engine plane donning hats donated by Alpha One Flight Services. Everyone also enjoyed watching the planes and helicopters take off and land. Events such as a rodeo and volcano



Peter Burbank models his Mardi Gras mask.

eruptions have also been reenacted.

As you can see, the Coast to Coast group is well traveled and they are looking forward to visiting Tennessee, Kentucky, Washington and Indiana in the near future. As you travel this summer, keep in mind that we love to have guest speakers and welcome anyone to share their pictures, experiences and memories of past vacations and perhaps we too can share our “travel” experiences with you too! ■

# When Opportunity Knocks

Continued from page 1

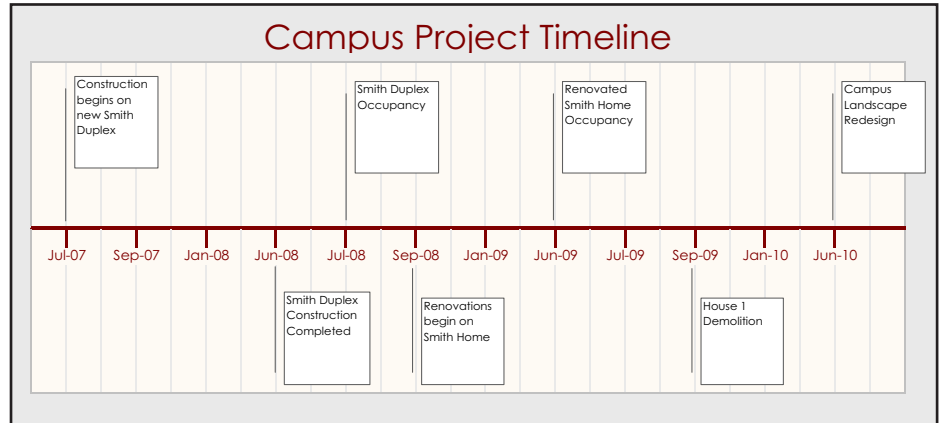
campus landscape redesign.

As reported in this publication last summer, the building of a new Smith Duplex, which is actually two 5-bed homes, has been made possible through a very generous gift from the Reynolds Rich Smith Trust. The home is being planned to support older members of our community and Marc Maxwell, the

- separate med rooms
- awake overnight staffing on both sides of the duplex
- a staff well-educated in working with the elderly

Additionally, The Living Center (TLC) program will be housed in the new Smith Duplex in a larger space than they operate in today. Supplemental LPN staffing is also being considered.

At last writing, it was undecided which house would be coming down to make



architect chosen for the project, has prior experience designing assisted living facilities. It will be located next to House 1 & 2, across the street from the Sollar Wellness Center.

### Some notable features of the Smith Duplex include:

- being the first fully sprinklered home
- radiant heating for comfort and economy

room for the new property. It has since been decided that House 1 residents will be moving into the existing Smith Home which will be extensively renovated (not to be confused with the Smith Duplex) and House 1 will be demolished shortly thereafter.

I think it’s pretty apparent that amidst all the excitement and change happening on our campus over the next 3 years, we’ll need to find some time to hold a few house naming contests! ■

# Human Rights Conference

Continued from page 1

to the traditional workshop environment; 2) How taking the pressure off an individual and staff through flexible scheduling, helped address that individual’s fear of medical procedures; 3) How Ken Delmonte’s love of music and his recent experiences as a guest DJ on WZLX FM 100.7 fulfilled a lifelong dream of his. Ken spoke for 30 minutes and fielded questions about his experience.

Michael says both he and Kenny

received a very positive response to their presentation and they would love to do it again. Great job guys! ■



Ken Delmonte and Kim Lowman play air guitar with the WZLX morning show crew.

# Pathways to the Community

## A Beautiful Day

Normalcy; it is something that many of us often take for granted. It is also something that the individuals in the Pathways, Employment Supports and Living Center programs try to attain everyday.

On May 25th, part of NEVDS was turned into a salon as Pathways held its first ever Day of Beauty for the women who attend the program (a similar day for the men of the program is in the planning process). The day was designed to give the women of Pathways the opportunity to enjoy being pampered with hair styling, manicures and make-up application.

Mary Lipinski, Stacie Dubois, and Sue Connolly from Complements Hair Salon in Hanover, MA provided the hair styling services, and, under the direction of faculty advisor Claire Milligan, students from the cosmetology school at South Shore Vocational Technical School, also of Hanover, were on hand to help with manicures and make-up.

“This is so awesome”, said Jessica Hanlon, a Pathways staff member. “They are all so happy! We work hard every day helping them with a variety of skills, either to build those life skills or to help maintain what they already have. It is great to be able to do this for them – just look at how much fun they are having – just girls being girls.”

As an added bonus, Michaela Gagne, Miss Massachusetts 2006, as well as other regional winners from the Miss Massachusetts organization, joined Pathways for the special day. At first, they were there talking to the individuals and taking pictures with them. Before long, they too were helping the ladies of Pathways with manicures and make-up.

Most of those who were volunteering their time at Pathways that day (Complements Hair Salon, South Shore Vocational Technical School and the Miss

[www.newenglandvillage.org](http://www.newenglandvillage.org)



Mary Lipinski cuts Daphne Fuller's Hair.



(l to r) Hairdressers Stacie Dubois and Sue Connolly style Cindy Gerardi and Wendy Callaban's hair.



Lori Pilachowski with some cosmetology students from South Shore Vocational Technical School.



Ms. Blackstone Valley Francine Bouska and Judy Smith.



Miss New Bedford Chantelle Pavao and Karen Ryan.



A SSVT Cosmetology student applies makeup to Lisa Perkins.

Massachusetts organization) know that they touched the lives of the ladies of Pathways in some way or fashion. Judging from all of the smiles from the individuals, they touched a few lives themselves.

Normalcy - achieved! ■

## Thank You Major Sean



This picture of NEVDS program participants was sent to Major Coveney and the flight crew.

On February 12, 2007, Major Sean J. Coveney and the crew of an EA-6B Prowler plane flew an American flag through the skies of Afghanistan in honor of the staff, residents and Day Services participants of New England Village. The flag was sent to NEVDS and proudly hung over the door of Pathways I. Major Coveney is the son of Pathways staff member Linda Braccia. ■

## Pathways Wellness Ride

A bike-a-thon fundraiser benefiting the Jett Foundation

July 16 – October 26

Please sponsor one of our riders and help out a great cause.

For more information call

Pathways at

781-447-4413 or email

Michael Burke at [mburke@newenglandvillage.org](mailto:mburke@newenglandvillage.org)

The Jett Foundation is an organization dedicated to raising awareness of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.



***New England Village, Inc.***

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**If you would like to receive Scoops, please contact the Marketing Department at 781-293-5461 x107 or email [drezendes@newenglandvillage.org](mailto:drezendes@newenglandvillage.org).**

## Village Residents “Adopt” Horses



*See story on page 9*