

Employee Spotlight Dave Lopez, Director of Facilities

Keeping the behind-the-scenes of the D'Youville campus running is a big job. Congratulations to Dave Lopez who was promoted to the Director of Facilities at D'Youville where he oversees the Maintenance, Laundry and Housekeeping departments ensuring that everything on campus is in safe working order, residents have clean laundry, the entire facility remains in tip-top shape, as well as overseeing renovation projects on campus. Dave started at D'Youville almost 12 years ago as the Assistant Director of Operations and has learned all that it takes to keep our campus running smoothly. Congratulations Dave on your new position!

Volunteer Spotlight Aimee the Dog

Our volunteers are so important and bring much joy to our campus helping our staff to bring residents to salon appointments, to the Chapel for Mass, participate in formal and informal activities and so much more. During the height of COVID, our volunteers were unable to visit our campus. We were all incredibly happy when the Commonwealth of Massachusetts finally lifted visiting restrictions and we were able to welcome them back with open arms. One volunteer in particular instantly brought joy to all. Our therapy dog, Aimee, is a labradoodle, which is a mix of poodle and Labrador retriever. Aimee is ten years old and has spent almost her entire life as a therapy dog. She is incredibly calm, loving and instantly brightens the day of our residents and staff alike bringing smiles wherever she goes. She visits our campus a few days a week, usually on Wednesday and Friday, and loves to interact with our residents, or can be found curled up in the office or outside the door of our Mission Director Debbie Scionti. Aimee knows it is her job to make people feel better. Every day after "work," she is rewarded with one of her favorite chewy treats so she knows she has done a good job. Thank you, Aimee!



Meet Our ... 2022-2023 Foundation Board

The D'Youville Foundation was founded in 2003 to provide "niceties, not just necessities" for our residents. The D'Youville Foundation Board consists of volunteer members of our community who act as ambassadors in the community and oversee our fundraising strategy and efforts. Foundation board members commit to a one-year term with the option to renew. Many of our board members have been dedicated to the Foundation for many, many years. We are pleased to introduce our 2022-2023 Foundation Board: Officers Jill Adie (Board Chair), Mary-Jo Griffin (Vice Chair), Stephen Deveau (Treasurer), and David Clermont, Esq. (Clerk). Welcome to our newest members Alison Hughes and Scott McKiel who join long-term members John Bukala, Brian Fitzsimons, Carol Howard, Thomas Golden, Jr., Alison Kalman, Elias Manolis, Naomi Prendergast, Bruce T. Robinson and James Sullivan, Jr. In addition, thank you to our board members representing the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm: Mother Mary Rose Heery, O. Carm; Sr. Peter Lillian Di Maria, O. Carm; Sr. Mark Louis Randall, O. Carm and our representative from the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa, Sr. Pr scille Malo, s.c.o. A special thank you to our members who served as our officers for the past three years: Alison Kalman (past Board Chair) and Jim Sullivan, Jr. (past Clerk). New members are invited to join the board each year on a rolling basis. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Tara Dhar, Director of Philanthropy at tdhar@dyouville.org. Our board is so important to the work that we do in our community and helps us to raise the funds to continue to provide the best for the residents on our campus! We thank you for your continued service and dedication to D'Youville!

SAVE THE DATE

2022 - Lasting Impressions Gala
Thursday, November 3, 2022 | Four Oaks Country Club, Dracut, MA

2023 - 17th Annual Golf Classic
Monday, June 5th, 2023 | Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover, MA

2023 - 8th Annual Ladies Golf Classic | Date & Location TBD

For the latest on our events and happenings at D'Youville, please make sure we have your current email address. To update your info, please email fundraisers@dyouville.org.

Caring Connection

SUMMER 2022

Notes from Naomi

Dear Friends,

The summer months are a beautiful time on the D'Youville campus, and I am so pleased to let you know that many COVID-related restrictions have been lifted by DPH. Our D'Youville Senior Care residents are once again able to enjoy visits in their rooms from loved ones, without regard to vaccination status. Cookouts and many activities on the campus have resumed, including Mass in the D'Youville Chapel for those living on our campus. While masking for staff and visitors, and weekly staff surveillance testing will continue indefinitely, it is wonderful to see increasing social opportunities for all! On a similar note, the D'Youville Ladies' Golf Tournament and Golf Classic were held this spring, and our Lasting Impressions Gala will return to the Fall event calendar on November 3rd. We are looking forward to seeing you, in person, soon!

It has now been two years since D'Youville Life & Wellness Community transitioned sponsorship to the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, and became a member of The Carmelite System. During our years of planning, we never thought that this transition would occur during a pandemic! As promised, even during this challenging time, "D'Youville is still D'Youville", and our hallmark mission of compassionate care is lived each day across our campus. The benefits of being part of a larger organization have included behind-the-scene updates to certain operational systems, allowing even greater focus on the needs of those we serve.

I hope you will enjoy this issue of Caring Connection. As always, thank you for your friendship, and support!

Warm regards,

Naomi Prendergast, President & CEO



D'Youville Foundation

www.dyouville.org

@DYouvilleLowell

In Remembrance Matt Kitner

Anyone who has been to the D'Youville campus has experienced the many ways that Matt Kitner helped to make our campus a warm and safe environment for our residents, families and employees. Matt came to D'Youville in 1999 and went on to become our Director of Building Projects and IT where he played an active role in many developments and expansions to the facility over the years. The entire D'Youville community was saddened by his passing this past January. Matt was beloved by colleagues, residents and the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa who invited him to become an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa where he participated in their International Congress in Canada. He was also a former board member at the Ste. Jeanne D'Arc School and served on the Facilities committee for many years. Matt's legacy will remain with us always, he is truly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him and he will forever remain in our memories and in our hearts.



Resident Spotlight Bev Robitaille, Bruyere Gardens

We were thrilled that former D'Youville employee and current resident at Bruyere Gardens (BG), Bev Robitaille joined us at our recent Ladies Golf event to share her experience as a senior, living on our campus. In an eloquent and often humorous speech, Bev thanked the staff, administrators and directors of D'Youville Life & Wellness Community for the compassionate care and concern shown to all of the residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bev is grateful for the concern and quick action that the D'Youville community took to keep everyone as healthy as possible. She is truly blessed for the care that everyone receives on campus every day.



Welcome Back! The Men's Guild Cookout

Despite a bit of an overcast day, the excitement was bright as the residents and employees at D'Youville Senior Care welcomed back the Men's Guild Cookout after a two-year pandemic related hiatus. Our residents and staff kicked off the Summer season on June 8th with an amazing cookout featuring hamburgers, hot dogs and the much missed Lobster Rolls, along with all the fixing's and summertime sides including potato and pasta salads, ice cream treats, beverages and more all courtesy of the Men's Guild! A huge thank you to Men's Guild President Joe Clermont, Esq. and all the Guild volunteers who donate and organize this special tradition and who volunteer their time to make the day so special. Part of the D'Youville family since its founding in 1960, the D'Youville Men's and Ladies' Guilds are a great way of getting involved while also supporting our mission. The Guilds are composed of dedicated men and women from the Greater Lowell community who meet in different social settings to raise money for the benefit of D'Youville's residents and to plan activities for their enjoyment. For information on how to get involved in the Men's or Ladies Guild, please contact Tara Dhar at tdhar@dyouville.org. We look forward to welcoming the Men's Guild back on September 14th for the end of summer cookout! It is so wonderful to have this tradition back on our campus!



D'Youville in the News Lowell Chili Contest

At D'Youville, we are best known for outstanding care of the seniors on our campus but did you know we are also home to an award winning Chili? We are excited to announce that our Director of Dining Services, Vlad Mesidor took home the FIRST PLACE prize in the Professional Division at the 2022 D.I.Y. Lowell Chili Contest in March. His winning entry "Vegan & Beyond" wowed the judges and all the supporters who came out to taste test the best Chili and Stew in the Greater Lowell Area. Thanks to D.I.Y. Lowell for once again hosting the fun and tasty evening! We cannot wait to see what culinary concoction Vlad brings in 2023! We are so lucky to have such a great chef heading up all the dining on the D'Youville Life & Wellness Campus. Congratulations Vlad, you will always be our favorite Chili King!



Event Spotlight 2022 Golf Events

It was amazing to welcome back BOTH of our Golf events back this year! The **7th Annual Ladies Golf Tournament** took place on a breezy, sunny day at Shaker Hills Country Club, Harvard, MA on Tuesday, May 17th. Almost 70 lady-golfers joined us for a truly spectacular day. Highlights included: players and volunteers were gifted fun items including a bright pink beach towels courtesy of Dunkin' Adie Conway, balls and tees courtesy of Dracut House of Pizza and fun lip care kits courtesy of Stephanie Gilchrist. The ladies bid on themed Silent Auction prizes and participated in the "Our Favorite Things Raffle" where one lucky lady took home the most incredible basket to kick-off her summer, worth over \$1800! At our post-event luncheon guests learned about the work on the D'Youville Campus directly from two residents. Speakers Emma Fried, a resident at D'Youville Senior Care, spoke about her high-regard for her care as a resident since 2016. Bev Robitaille, a former employee and current resident at Bruyere Gardens spoke about her time living on campus. Her humorous approach was a wonderful way for our guests to learn how our care impacts those living on our campus.

Just a few weeks later on Monday, June 6th, close to 100 golfers joined us on another spectacular, sunny day at Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover, MA for the **16th Annual D'Youville Life & Wellness Community Golf Classic**. Twenty-three foursomes joined us, many from our sponsors and partners. Highlights included a wonderful day of golf, tasty bites at the grill featuring hot dogs, cheeseburgers and beverages courtesy of HPC Foods, Calise Bakery and Coca-Cola. Players were gifted Kelly green beach towels courtesy of the Alloy Group and balls and tees courtesy of Dracut House of Pizza. The day was topped with cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres where our player winners and raffle winners were announced.



A huge thank you to all of our supporters, volunteers and to our Ladies Golf Committee: Jill Adie, Joan Capadanno, Tara Dhar, Betty Dick, Stephanie Gilchrist, Cathy McClutchy, Gail Murphy and Naomi Prendergast and to our D'Youville Special Events Committee: Jill Adie, John Bukala, Tara Dhar, Betty Dick, Ann Kelleher, Elias Manolis, Cathy McClutchy, Naomi Prendergast, Bruce Robinson and Jim Sullivan.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

A huge thank you to all of our sponsors for their generous support of D'Youville. All net proceeds from our events benefit the D'Youville Community Enrichment Fund to enhance the lives of the seniors on our campus!

A special thank you to our 2022 overall event Supporters, Titanium Level: Demoulas Foundation, Eastern Salt, Inc., Enterprise Bank and **Platinum Level:** Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, and Tufts Medicine Lowell General Hospital.

Thank you to our 2022 Golf Event Supporters:

Diamond Level: Alloy Group, Campbell Family, DUNKIN' Adie Conway, Fallon Health, HPC Foods, Lowell Five Bank, Partners Pharmacy, Washington Savings Bank. **Gold Level:** DCU, PrideStar Trinity EMS. **Silver Level:** AMPM Property Management RI, Axial Benefits, Chris Milot Plumbing & Heating, Coca-Cola of New England, Durkin Company, Dracut House of Pizza, Fishbones of Chelmsford, Maureen Gervais & Eleanor Sullivan, O'Connor Photography Studios, Sallop Insurance, Tufts Medicine Home Health Foundation, and UMass Lowell. For a full list of our Golf Supporters, please visit our website at www.dyouville.org.



Congratulations to our 2022 Mission Leaf Winners!

Congratulations to **Usha Berajawala**, DSC, SCU Activities, **Terri Crandall**, DSC, RN Sweetland, **Sue La Roche**, DCAT, Rehab Clinical Supervisor, **Vladimir Mesidor**, Dining Services Director, **Leeann Morales**, DSC, CNA West Unit and **Kerry Mullen**, DCAT, Case Manager who were all chosen as our 2022 Mission Leaf Recipients! The Mission Leaf Award honors members of our staff who make a difference by living our mission on a daily basis and whose life reflects the core values of Mother Elisabeth Bruyere, which include: Generosity of Spirit, Courage, Simplicity, Respect, Passion and Audacity. All were honored at a special celebration that included an award ceremony for winners and nominees as well as a BBQ. Recipients were presented with a certificate, a Mission Leaf pin and a gift certificate of \$100, as well as the honor of being the recipient of one of our most coveted awards. Congratulations to these six, who were among sixteen outstanding employees nominated this year!

Donor Spotlight Alloy Group

We are thrilled to welcome Diamond Level Sponsors the Alloy Group as a "new" but familiar supporter to the D'Youville family! When Foundation board member Brian Fitzsimons sold his company Dec-Tam, Inc. to the Alloy Group he was happy to open the door to continue the support of D'Youville. When Brian purchased the company from former Foundation board member, Carol Bateson he made sure to keep the support going as well. Alloy Group sent several employees to volunteer at the Golf Classic and donated our player gifts for the Golf Classic, Kelly-green beach towels to all players and volunteers. We so appreciate the continued support and look forward to working with Alloy Group in the years to come.