

THE ANGELICA ADVOCATE

DECEMBER 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF ANGELICA PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



HOSPITAL HAPPENINGS

Art From The Heart III

The RIVAA Gallery was filled with excitement on Saturday, April 25th for the opening of "Art from the Heart III," a collection of art created by patients and residents from Coler-Goldwater Hospital. Now in its third year, the exhibit gets bigger and better - this year drawing visitors from Roosevelt Island, Manhattan and Queens. A variety of different types of art, including pastels, pen and ink, acrylic, 3-D computer imagery, photography, nature crafts and watercolors were on display, showing the talent and creativity that stretches across both campuses. Many of the artists attended the opening to answer questions, share their stories and build stronger relationships with the Roosevelt Island community.

Thank you to RIVAA for opening their doors once again in support of our art program and to board members BoBo, Esther and Georgette, who helped curate and hang the work for the exhibit. Congratulations to the artists on a wonderful show that confirmed that artistic expression is a vital part of life, enhancing the lives of the artists and their community.

The exhibit was funded by the Michael Cahn Foundation, in memory of Michael Cahn's love of the arts. Michael was a long time resident at Coler and his parents, Lehan and Al, are active members of the Coler Community Advisory Board. Art materials, provided by Angelica and the Goldwater Auxiliary, are always available for the artists, inspiring their creativity and self-expression. Under the guidance of Therapeutic Recreation staff, the resident artists continue to enhance their skills, culminating in bi-annual exhibits at each campus.



NEW EVENTS

Dancing into Fall with the Harvest Ball

"...last night's... show was one if the best I have seen since I've been here... I've never seen us patients have as much fun." - Bob

HOSPITAL HAPPENINGS

A Day of Pampering

Our friends at Goldwater got ready for fall at a relaxing Spa & Beauty day. Ron Becker, Director of Therapeutic Recreation, and Rebecca Casciano, professional make-up artist, recruited 13 volunteers to provide massage, make-up, hairstyling and manicures. As colorful pictures of nature decorated the auditorium and soothing music filled the air, patients enjoyed healing and energizing Reiki, relaxing massage, new hair-do's and make-up, perfectly shaped and colored nails as well as delicious fruit smoothies. Patients also received a fabulous French manicure set from e.l.f. (eyes lips face) Cosmetics. They ended the day with pictures of themselves looking and feeling marvelous. The event was tremendous and we hope to sponsor two spa events a year at each campus.

A big thank you to the artists who took a day away from work to provide their services: Hairstylist Linh Nguyen, make-up artists Rebecca Casciano, Sheila McKenna, Theresa Francine, Trace Byers, Aldys Minaya and Giorgi Sandev, Reiki specialist Teresa Benoit, massage therapist Judith Ginzberg, manicurists Connie Gascot and Teresa Smith and smoothie maker extraordinaire Marilyn Peoples. Appreciation also goes



to Nursing and Medical, who helped in the approval process for all participants, and to Infection Control, who helped ensure safety protocols.

Angelica was pleased to provide the materials to create make up stations, disposable make-up applicators and fruit to make smoothies.

Coler patient committee members and Therapeutic Recreation staff created a night to remember by throwing Angelica's first Harvest Ball. Resident DJ Nelson set the mood with music as patients and residents lined up for dance contests and a rockin' karaoke contest. Winners of the dance contests, Shonette, Vivian (Sparkle), Raymond, Johnnie Mae and Charles received an American Express gift card; and the first place karaoke performer, John, took home a new Panasonic CD player. Everyone left with a goodie bag and a big smile.

NEW EVENTS

Harvest Ball cont'd. from page 1

Thanks to patient committee members: Sandra, Mike, Denise, Carmen, Luther, Sabrina and Ernest, Angelica Board members for judging the contests, the Therapeutic Recreation staff for providing services throughout the night and Chandler for emceeding the event.

DONOR'S CORNER

Help Angelica reach its goal!

As you can see, Angelica plays a major role in organizing and funding many great events and programs at Coler-Goldwater. To keep these events going we are hoping to raise \$50,000 for ongoing and new programs and activities in 2010. Please go to www.angelicaprogram.org to make a tax-deductible contribution.

Thank you Duval & Stachenfeld! We have been extremely fortunate to receive a large gift of office furniture from Manhattan law firm Duval & Stachenfeld, LLP. The desks, file cabinets, conference tables, sofas, chairs, lamps and artwork have upgraded the administrative offices at Coler-Goldwater Hospital. We and the hospital staff are very grateful for the generosity of Duval & Stachenfeld.



Russ Pikell, Asst. Director of Therapeutic Recreation at Goldwater, enjoys his new furniture.

Different ways you can give: *In-kind gifts:* Items that would be greatly appreciated are new coats, gloves etc (winter gear), everyday clothing (leisure wear) and special clothes for outings and birthdays; materials to develop photographs, games, books and DVD's. All items should be in new or almost new condition. *If you would like to donate a gift or organize a larger gift drive please e-mail us at angelica.program@yahoo.com or contact us at our website: www.angelicaprogram.org.*

When you shop online – make it count for Angelica: If you shop at places like Amazon, Bloomingdales, Best Buy and Banana Republic, Angelica can receive up to 3% of the cost of your purchase if you go through www.goodsearch.com.

The mission of the Angelica Patient Assistance Program is to enhance the lives of economically disadvantaged patients in need of long-term medical care and to support long-term medical care facilities.

For more information about Angelica, log on to:
www.angelicaprogram.org

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NEW EVENTS

One last summer blast:
Summer Carnival

In celebration of the end of a wonderful summer, Angelica hosted a fantastic Summer Carnival at Goldwater on Wednesday, September 16th. The auditorium was transformed into a classic fairground complete with fresh grilled hot dogs, assorted ice cream bars, freshly popped popcorn, games and of course... a clown. Upon entry, feathered face masks were given out to add fun and mystery to the day. Everywhere you looked, smiles were framed by colorful feathers as patients and residents danced and played games. Barkers along the fairway encouraged patients and residents to knock down milk cans, take a turn at the prize wheel or have their picture taken with the strong man. Beaded necklaces, bracelets, floral leis, stuffed animals and calendars were some of the prizes offered. Everyone left with a bandanna filled with jewelry, candy and a variety of other fun items. Expressions of gratitude and smiles confirmed that another successful event had been created by the Goldwater Patient Committee, Therapeutic Recreation and Angelica. Special thanks to members of the Goldwater Committee: Lisa, Warren, Tjader, Francine, Richard and Theresa.



PATIENT PROGRAMS

Checkmate!

On Monday, August 10th, the chess club held its 3rd annual Chess Tournament. The players arrived with winning hearts and great enthusiasm. The competition was intense as the players set their minds and strategies to the test. At the end of the day, our friend Lamont emerged victorious. Congratulations to Lamont on a game well played!

The chess club was founded by Wilmine Rene-Casimir three years ago. The club meets once a week at the River Club at Coler. It is indeed a game of strategy and requires a careful and thoughtful mind. The patients love it because it stimulates their minds and provides an ever evolving challenge. Angelica purchased seven professional wooden chess sets and timers for the teams. This kind of donation is always recognized and appreciated by our friends at Coler-Goldwater.

Thank you Wilmine for your dedication to this wonderful team!

PATIENT PROGRAMS

Get the Picture

The new Photo Club met for the first time this past July at Coler Hospital. The first few sessions educated the residents on how to work a camera. By August, the club was able to participate in a local elementary school project called Living Library. Every Wednesday residents work with the children at the elementary school to capture the action of the children working on their own projects. Currently, these blossoming photographers are working on capturing objects up close and far away. Every Tuesday up to five residents go to the Light House next to Coler Hospital to capture the surrounding nature or the boats on the water. Their newly developed skills are being honed on digital cameras that were purchased by Angelica.

In the words of one of our friends at Coler, "On our last excursion we learned how to take pictures both far away and close-up. We also learned how to judge distance to take precise pictures of objects. We are looking forward to sharing our experiences with other members of the photography club who cannot go on excursions."