

Jerome Home / Arbor Rose
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 www.jeromehome.org





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“Today we honor our milestone anniversary recipients who have worked between five and 35 years,” said Lisa Connolly, NHA, MS, vice president, Hartford HealthCare Community Network, in remarks during the ceremony. “This is a testament to the culture of our communities, the extraordinary commitment of the staff, and their passion for seniors we are so privileged to serve each and every day.”

Puzzles needed!

Finished with a 300-350 piece jigsaw puzzle? Consider donating it to Arbor Rose for our residents. Please only donate complete puzzles. Thank you! - Donna Valente

 <p>For a free lunch & tour of Jerome Home, contact: Nicole Archambault-Benson <i>Admissions Director, at:</i></p>	 <p>For a free lunch & tour of Arbor Rose, contact: Denise Lebrocquy <i>Retirement Counselor, at:</i></p>
<p>860.229.3707</p>	
<p><i>Rehabilitation & Health Center Skilled Nursing Care</i></p>	<p><i>Independent & Assisted Living with Memory Care</i></p>



Monthly Review

A monthly newsletter for residents and family members of Jerome Home and Arbor Rose

November/December 2016

Vol. 2, Issue 6

Hartford HealthCare celebrates milestone employees

Arbor Rose and Jerome Home employees were among those congratulated by Hartford HealthCare Senior Services officials at the Longevity Celebration held Oct. 13. The event at Southington Care Center Courtyard, gave the executive directors from the HHCSS communities the opportunity to honor those staffers who had achieved impressive milestones.

Arbor Rose honorees included: five years – Mobolaji Ojekunle and Angela Sheehan. Jerome Home honorees serving the most years included, for 20 years - Dorine Baldwin, Audrey Schulde, Delores Thompson; 25 years – Maura Ciccotti; and 30 years- Elizabeth Richter. Others included: five years: Blanca Carrasco, Amy Damato, Andrea Desalvo, Aisha Ellison, Pamela Pinto, Ricardo Raspaldo, Amanda Roberge, Rosalie Tanguay; 10 years - Rita Nadeau-Breive, Kathryn Pellegrini, Robert Schmelzer; and 15 years - Lourdes Lopez and Katarzyna Ufniaz.

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Above: Representing Jerome Home, from left, are Sue Kuchman, Katarzyna Ufniaz, Blanca Carrasco, Lori Toombs, Aisha Ellison and Kathryn Pellegrini.

Right: Arbor Rose Executive Director Will Menoche congratulates Angie Sheehan.



Scarecrow Festival delights everyone

An annual excursion to see the scarecrows on Old Main Street in Wethersfield is always a favorite fall day trip for Arbor Rose. Last year the scarecrows were few and far between and difficult to see from inside the bus for many of the residents. It was also a challenge to pull over safely to view the scarecrows and it could be difficult walking on uneven surfaces.

This year I thought wouldn't it be fun to make our own scarecrows, and so the idea originated. My residents could

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Jerome Home Courtyard Garden Club: Lessons from our garden

May and June started our vegetable garden off with a bang. It was lush, healthy and thriving. It seemed that you could almost watch the plants grow right before your eyes. Then the drought and high temperatures took a toll and while still growing, it became a bit rough around the edges. However, we continued on and learned many things in our garden this season.

Our generous families and friends donated a variety of tomato plants, lettuces, cucumbers, herbs, eggplants, squash and even broccoli, a first for our garden. We give many thanks to you all; without your support we would not be able to continue what is a passion for many of us in the Garden Club. Our garden allows us to be outside in the sun, get our hands in the dirt, care for living things, see the progress throughout the season, continue learning, and best of all, enjoy the harvest.

An electric toothbrush in the garden, you ask? You may have observed our Garden Club in what seemed an odd behavior. No, we were not trying to clean the tomato plants but rather to help the bees with the pollination. Tomato flowers have both male and female parts in each flower so it is easy to pollinate them by placing an electric toothbrush under an open flower; this vibration mimics that of a bee. Given the reduced population of bees in our world, this helps to ensure a more abundant crop. This is a tip we actually learned last season.

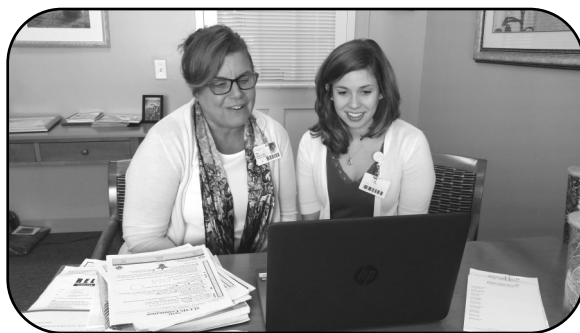
This year we learned about blossom end rot which is often caused by poor calcium uptake and can be affected by drought stress. Researching on the Internet, we found many suggestions for dealing with this problem including adding powdered lime to the soil before planting or bone meal, watering with a drip irrigation system and adding crumbled up eggshells to the soil which can help to maintain the calcium levels.

Garden season came to an end with a late harvest of beets, carrots and radishes that we planted in August. We also brought in Helen S.'s orange tree - which she started from a seed - to spend the winter in the nice warm sunshine of the second floor Attwood corridor. Who knows? Maybe in time we will even get some fruit. We look forward to learning new things and growing new crops.

Interested in a copy of our Full Garden Newsletter? Please email nigrol@jeromehome.org.
- Laura Nigro, therapeutic recreation director



Arbor Rose provides tour via Skype



Arbor Rose's Director of Wellness Pat Eleveld, BSN, and Resident Services Coordinator Kate Rabinoff, LCSW, used technology to their advantage in August when the challenge of meeting an out-of-state prospective resident arose. "We were both familiar with Skype [a video telephone call] and Facetime technology so we thought we would give this a try," said Rabinoff. "Moving to a new home can be a challenge, but even more so for someone out of state who may not

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easily walk through the main courtyard to view them, problem solved.

So this year, with the help of all the disciplines and departments of Arbor Rose and Jerome Home, the scarecrow festival began. The involvement and imagination of the staff is impressive and the festival has taken on a life of its own. Staff worked together on their scarecrow theme and the residents could watch the assembly of these artistic creations.

The nursing team was the first to assemble their works of art, "The Wizard of Oz" including Dorothy, the Tin Man and the rest of the gang, including a remarkable Cowardly Lion. This scene proved to be popular with the Arbor Rose and Jerome Home residents who sometimes liked to gaze at these scarecrows perhaps with fond memories of their youth, or maybe reminiscing about the movie or just admiring the sheer creativeness of these sculptures.

"Harry Potter," including Professor Dumbledore and an owl made of paper mâché, came next. These characters were made by myself and Sandy Brown, recreation assistant. Some of the costume pieces were acquired by Donna Valente of the Arbor Rose Recreation team. "The owl's eyes seem so real," said one resident to me. "He's staring at me," said another, laughing.

Lori Toombs, Jerome Home executive director, with her mom's help, made outstanding "Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton" tribute scarecrows. The Arbor Rose dining department turned out a fabulous "Scary Kitchen Scene" brewing dreadful and fiendish concoctions.

Everyone had great fun and it was a terrific way to team build with fellow employees. As I watched three nurses work together to stuff a scarecrow leg or watch the chef and dining staff assembling the scarecrow's head, I couldn't help but think that this is why my job and the other jobs here are

so great: We can create fun for others and, in the process, create a fun and loving environment for ourselves and the people we serve: our residents.

The Scarecrow Festival ended on Oct. 28, culminating with all day activities including Halloween Trivia, apple cider doughnuts, a Halloween photo booth, pumpkin painting, pumpkin pie, the "Scary Happy Hour" and scarecrow judging. Please visit us on Facebook or on our website www.arborrose.org to learn who the winners were.

- Elaina Letendre, program director
for The Gardens, Arbor Rose at Jerome Home



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have the opportunity to tour the community or meet with staff."

Through Skype, Eleveld and Rabinoff were able to see the client, meet family and speak with a nurse to ask clinical questions. Family also

utilized Facetime by showing the prospective resident a video of the apartment and Arbor Rose's community. Through technology, the Arbor Rose team hopes to create smooth transitions for out-of-state seniors and their families looking to call Arbor Rose home.

Arbor Rose at Jerome Home's free caregivers' support group will be held Nov. 16 and Dec. 21, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call Kate Rabinoff at 860-229-3707.