

Jerome Home / Arbor Rose  
975 Corbin Avenue  
New Britain, Connecticut 06052  
860.229.3707  
www.jeromehome.org



## Community Tag Sale

Saturday, Sept. 10  
8 a.m.-noon  
Interested in renting a  
table?  
Call Denise, 860-356-8256

## 2nd Annual Arbor Rose Holiday Fair & Café

Friday, Nov. 4  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Get a jump on your holiday  
shopping with all  
homemade crafts, quilting,  
jewelry, wreaths, raffle  
prizes and much more.  
This year, our café will  
offer homemade soups,  
baked goods and beverages  
for purchase. Call Sandy,  
860.229.3707.



For a free lunch & tour  
of Jerome Home, contact:  
Nicole Archambault-Benson  
*Admissions Director*, at:

**860.229.3707**

*Rehabilitation & Health Center  
Skilled Nursing Care*



For a free lunch & tour  
of Arbor Rose, contact:  
Denise Lebrocquy  
*Retirement Counselor*, at:

*Independent & Assisted Living  
with Memory Care*



# Monthly Review

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

September/October 2016

Vol. 2, Issue 5

## Nothing 'fishy' here: Group takes dream fishing trip

By Elaina Letendre, *program director for  
The Gardens neighborhood*

**"I** wish we could go fishing," said  
Terry B., in the country kitchen of  
Arbor Rose And so the adventure  
started, with that one statement about  
a fond memory of an earlier time in  
Terry's life.

I was just walking through the country  
kitchen returning from the mailbox,  
when I overheard the conversation  
between Terry, a resident, and our  
recreation aide, Sandy Brown. "I want  
to go fishing too," I said. Looking at  
Sandy and Terry's face, I finished by  
saying, "Let's do it!" and we all agreed.

Of course, there were a lot of obstacles.  
Yes, we would need fishing licenses and  
we would need fishing poles. Where  
would we get those? Oh yes, and a place  
to fish. Also, how about the dangers? The terrain near a pond is always tricky, uneven paths of  
weeds and brush to overcome. The weather could be tricky and what

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From left to right are, Nancy Lickwar, Dave Brown, driver, Terry B.,  
Lynn G., Chet G., Sandy Brown, recreation aide, Esther F. and Elaina  
Letendre, program director of The Gardens at Arbor Rose.



From left, Greg Sieron, Alexandra Morales, Kathy  
Fortier, Robert Schmelzer and Ann Marie Massey.

## Specialized training program augments resident care at Jerome Home

Four employees of Jerome Home graduated from the  
first Feeding Assistant Training program on Aug. 1.

Greg Sieron, dining director; Alexandra Morales,  
housekeeping; Kathy Fortier, staff development  
coordinator; Robert Schmelzer, exercise physiologist;  
and Ann Marie Massey, dietary aide, were trained to  
assist residents during meals and work under the direct  
supervision of licensed nursing staff.

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Chet G., our oldest angler at 100, landed the biggest fish!

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about bathrooms? Where to eat? Did I mention bugs or ticks?

Do other people want to go? It turned out, that they did. Chet G., a resident, mentioned that a wish of his was to go fishing, too. This could be a daunting task, but wasn't it worth all the trouble? Of course it was, I thought.

Along with Sandy, the task of putting this trip together began. I first had an idea to contact the State of Connecticut about the licenses and then thought about the YMCA. The YMCA's Camp Sloper and Crescent Lake are nearby in Southington, so we decided to try that.

After contacting the DEEP, and then realizing the difficulties getting licenses, I gave up and called the YMCA and asked if we could fish there. They said I could, as long as I provided a certificate of insurance, but I could go and not have to get the licenses. So we planned our day trip to Camp Sloper.

Sandy and I went to look at the camp and find a place that would be suitable. The terrain was a little difficult, there were a lot of tall grasses and bushes along the edge of the pond, but we decided it would work, and planned our outing.

Finally the day came and everyone chipped in, bringing items for the trip, including their own fishing poles and tackle boxes. Sandy had called a few family members and they helped supply some of those items. We brought chairs and ordered lunch from the kitchen, filling a cooler with delicious sandwiches, fruit, cookies and drinks. The bus was full of people, chairs, poles, coolers, jackets, bug spray, suntan lotion, sunglasses and hats of all sorts. We stopped for worms and bought two dozen. Yes, two dozen!

When we got to the camp we couldn't believe our eyes. The staff at the "Y" had mowed and cleared the weeds for us. They had even brought picnic tables down for us. They opened up the restrooms for us to use as well. A soaking wet (just coming out of the pond) "Y" staff member greeted us as we pulled in and assured us that if we needed anything, he would try to help. Everyone at the camp was more than gracious.

We quickly unloaded the bus and began to fish. Catching and releasing the prized fish and sometimes turtles, back to the pond. All day we sat and soaked in the beautiful sun and surrounding beauty of the camp. The sky was blue with big puffs of white clouds and there was a slight breeze throughout the day, keeping the mosquitoes and bugs at bay.

Our oldest resident, a centenarian, caught the largest fish, a small mouthed bass. He was thrilled - all day and the next - by his expertise as an angler. Terry brought her best friend and her son for the day of fun, a dream come true, by Terry's account.

What a great day we had! We all had a wonderful time and I was proud that Arbor Rose made the decision to make our residents' wishes come true.

And to answer the most important question of all: Yes, I put my own worm on my hook and a lot of other hooks as well. In fact, we came back because we ran out of worms, even after cutting them in half. That's four dozen yucky worms!

It's been a summer of fun for Arbor Rose and Jerome Home residents



Above, Arbor Rose residents prepare to board the River Quest for an excursion on the Connecticut River.

Top right: Attwood residents deliver cookies they made to the New Britain Police Department.

Right: Jerome Home residents and staff show team spirit after going to see the New Britain Bees, the hometown team.



**Care** continued from page 1

Six Jerome Home employees conducted the training which included eight hours of classroom instruction and supervision during four meals. Students learned feeding techniques, safety and emergency procedures including the Heimlich Maneuver, infection control practices, resident behaviors, and communication and interpersonal skills.

The training was modeled on numerous core values including respect, dignity and worth of each resident as an individual, respect for each person's diversity, therapeutic relationships that are caring and compassionate, and encouragement of the resident to be as independent as possible. The curriculum corresponds to the federally required feeding assistance program and has been approved by the state of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

"Being able to assist our residents in such a meaningful way is absolutely wonderful. This is a great program," Morales said.

#### Caregivers Support Group

Being a caregiver is a difficult challenge and it is easy to feel overburdened. Arbor Rose at Jerome Home offers a free caregivers' support group on the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The next sessions will be Sept. 21 and Oct. 19. To RSVP, call Kate Rabinoff, MSW, resident services coordinator, 860.229.3707.

**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