



Villa St. Joseph

A Sponsored Ministry  
of the Sisters of St. Joseph

# A View From

# the Villa

Volume 15, Issue 1

1030 State St. • Baden, Pennsylvania • 15005

Winter 2015

*'New Light is Streaming'*

## New Spaces Open for Outpatient Rehab, Community

Sunlight splashed over the orange, green and blue Swalls of the newly opened Center for Outpatient Rehabilitation and Cup o' Joe café, signaling another vibrant and innovative milestone in the history of Villa St. Joseph.

Against this bright backdrop of colors and natural light, nearly 100 guests, including local dignitaries, attended the Dedication and Blessing Ceremony and toured the new center and expanded café on January 9.

In a fitting opening hymn, the Villa Resident Choir led the attendees in song: "Here in this place, new light is streaming."



*Father Dave blesses the new outpatient rehabilitation space: May those who come to this space for healing experience hope and patience as they are blessed and made whole.*

.....  
*"Our seeds have grown and blossomed into a beautiful tree."*

— Mary Murray

Alluding to the "warm sunlight" and "God's presence," the Rev. David Scharf credited the staff for defining "the healing places" of love and compassion at the Villa and praised God for the daily "miracles" that continue to unfold there. Father Dave, chaplain for the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Villa, blessed those in attendance, the staff, the new outpatient area, and the café.

"Our seeds have grown and blossomed into a beautiful tree," Executive Director Mary Murray said in opening remarks. "It's been wonderful to see what were really just seeds of ideas come to fruition."

The seeds were planted in response to a growing need for state-of-the-art outpatient rehabilitation services in southwestern Pennsylvania. The rehabilitation center offers physical, occupational, speech and neurological music therapy services. The enlarged café, which will serve as a hub of

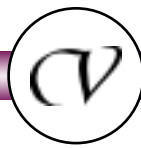
health and wellness programs and activities for residents as well as the public, dovetails with the Villa's mission outreach.

Work on the new 2,500 square-foot addition began in May. The \$975,000 project was funded by grants, private donations and other revenues. The addition was designed by Rothschild Doyno Collaborative and built by Mistick Construction Company.

The expansion project marks another milestone for the Villa, which is committed to innovation, said James Pieffer, Senior Vice President of Presbyterian SeniorCare, which provides management and support services to the Villa. He noted that the Villa was the first in Pennsylvania to establish the "neighborhood" model and has been a leader in developing strategies for end-of-life care and providing quality inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services.

"The Villa is well positioned to meet the changing environment," he said.

— continued on page 4



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## Dear Friends of Villa St. Joseph,



*Mary M. Murray*

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the expanded café and outpatient therapy construction in May 2014, I reflected on the seeds that were planted years ago that made this expansion of services possible. Those seeds are the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the tender, compassionate care provided by Villa St. Joseph staff members since our opening in 1997.

At our dedication ceremony on January 9, 2015, we celebrated how with the help of many supporters, our seeds have now grown and blossomed into the Cup O' Joe Café and our Center for Outpatient Rehabilitation: Beautiful, healing spaces to bring people together for therapeutic touch in rehabilitation, and education and social support built around a simple cup of coffee in our café. They also represent a beautiful extension of Villa St. Joseph's mission of "excellence in compassionate care" and outreach into our community.

Our final construction project is the relocation of the nurses' station in our Fontbonne Neighborhood. This new location will enable the nurses to have enhanced supervision of the residents in our dining and activities areas where residents congregate throughout the day. The construction is scheduled for completion in mid-February.

We invite you to enjoy that cup of coffee as we kick off our exciting new services in 2015!

With warmest regards,

Mary M. Murray, MPH, NHA  
Executive Director



### Mission Statement

Villa St. Joseph is a place of healing committed to excellence in compassionate care serving the health needs of older adults, as well as those in the wider community in need of our expanding services.

As a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, all that we do witnesses to a profound love of God and love of neighbor, without distinction, with deep respect for the sacredness of human life, and the dignity of person.

### For Your Information

The *View from the Villa* is published regularly for residents, families, employees and friends of Villa St. Joseph. Please address all correspondence to:

*View from the Villa*  
Villa St. Joseph  
1030 State Street  
Baden, PA 15005-1346

### Letter From a Friend

I can't find the words to adequately express my gratitude and praise. The three weeks I spent with you are truly memorable. The welcoming atmosphere from the minute I was wheeled in the main entrance followed me throughout my stay . . . . But most important was the care I received. All the staff in physical and occupational therapy were kind and patient; at the same time, they displayed a great sense of humor. The nursing staff and aides went above and beyond in the attention and kindness they showed me.

– Mary Jane Williams  
*Short-term resident who returned home*

*The Villa St. Joseph family offers sincere thanks and prayers of gratitude to all of our donors who have supported us as “partners in caring.” This 2014 Annual Report edition of “A View from the Villa” recognizes donors who have made charitable gifts to Villa St. Joseph from January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014.*

*We are blessed by our growing Circle of Friends and their generous capacity for helping us provide compassionate and competent care to residents of all faiths and economic backgrounds. In 2014, we welcomed 306 new residents to Villa St. Joseph, and approximately 60 percent of all residents continue to depend on charitable care and the open-heartedness of others who find joy in giving.*

*We have made every attempt to list our donors accurately. Should you have any corrections, please contact Ray Niedenberger, Director of Development, at 724-869-6321 or by e-mail at [ray@villastjoseph.org](mailto:ray@villastjoseph.org)*



## 2014 Highlights at Villa St. Joseph

- Villa St. Joseph cared for 424 residents while welcoming 306 persons who were admitted during the year. On any given day approximately 60 percent of our residents were funded by Medicaid which does not pay the full cost of their care.
- More than 90 volunteers contributed more than 5,500 hours of loving service.
- Our *Young at Heart 2014* held at the Hyatt Regency at the Airport raised more than \$94,000 for Benevolent Care and Music Therapy.
- The Center for Outpatient Rehabilitation and the Cup O' Joe café addition was completed, and both opened in December.
- The Rehabilitation Services Department has expanded to serve more short-term residents as well as outpatient individuals. A total of 226 individuals received rehabilitation services that helped them safely return to their homes in 2014. The rehabilitation team also has cared for 112 individuals on an outpatient basis.
- Foundation grants helped the Villa to complete the expansion of the Center for Outpatient Rehabilitation and Cup O' Joe café, continue a vibrant music therapy program for our residents, and expand an art program for residents that takes place twice a month.
- The Villa was selected as a “2014 Top Workplace” by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* based on an employee feedback survey.
- The Villa’s monthly staff retention rate remained at 78 percent or higher throughout the year.
- The Villa achieved a resident satisfaction rate of 91 percent in the highest level of satisfaction and 9 percent in the second highest level. (July thru November) Overall satisfaction with therapy was at 94 percent.

Mr. Pieffer also recognized the “wisdom, collaboration and spirit of the Sisters” who have embraced the partnership with Villa St. Joseph, which was established by them in 1997.

“To be a provider of health care and health-related services in the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph means a demonstrated commitment to compassionate care and to witnessing to the profound love of God and love and neighbor without distinction, which is the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph,” remarked Sister Mary Pellegrino, CSJ, a member of the Sisters’ Leadership Team and ex officio member of the Villa Board of Directors.

“To be expanding in the area of health care and health-related services at a time when there is so much uncertainty signals fidelity to a mission and vision that is both timeless and timely.”

In his opening remarks, A. Gary Chace, president of the Villa Board of Directors, welcomed guests and local dignitaries who included the Hon. Robert Kunselman; Rep. Robert Matzie;

Sen. Elder Vogel; Sam Gagliardi, Mayor of Baden; Erica Loftus, Executive Director of the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce; Dennis Nichols and Joe Spanik, Beaver County Commissioners; and Jeremy Honhold representing Congressman Keith Rothfus.

Harry Walter, a Villa resident, and Meghan Gebhart, daughter of Christina Gebhart (Activities Director), offered Scripture Readings and Sister Carolyn Wiethorn, Director of Pastoral Care, prayed:

*Generous God, we have built this space so that your untold grace, healing and love can be experience. Continue to grace and use as instruments to enable others to live better and be nourished both in in body and spirit. We ask this in your name of Christ your son, Amen.*



*Guests share conversation and refreshments in the expanded Cup o' Joe café, which becomes new space for community outreach.*

## *Why not share coffee and conversation?*

We are now recruiting volunteers to assist with activities, programs and simple conversation with residents who live in our Fontbonne Neighborhood.

Or Interested in helping with an art project? Sharing a cup of coffee and conversation with a resident in our new Cup o'Joe café?

If you are interested in volunteering your time or talent, please contact Chris Gebhart, Volunteer Coordinator, at 724-869-6306 or by e-mail at [cgebhart@villastjoseph.org](mailto:cgebhart@villastjoseph.org)



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## Villa St. Joseph Statement of Operations July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

### Operating Revenue\*

Net resident service revenue.....	\$11,701,960
Nursing home .....	1,107,235
Net assets released from restrictions used for operations .....	150,071
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,959,266</b>

### Operating Expenditures

Nursing care .....	\$4,840,085
Resident and general services .....	1,687,710
Administration.....	1,664,594
Nursing home assessment .....	1,077,019
Therapy .....	990,185
Interest.....	334,638
Building and maintenance .....	564,653
Depreciation and amortization.....	642,800
Dietary .....	911,508
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,713,192</b>

\*does not include non-operating revenues which include contributions, investment income and unrealized gain.

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- continued on page 10



## Volunteering at the Villa: A Sharing of Self

By A. Gary Chace

At the heart of a non-profit organization are the volunteers – from the volunteers who serve on the board to the volunteers who share their time and talents with our residents.

As Board President of Villa St. Joseph, I have the privilege of working with board members and staff leadership to advance our mission; however, it is in my capacity as a volunteer with residents that I experience firsthand our mission in action and the fruits of our board-staff leadership work.

More than 80 local individuals share their energies as volunteers at Villa St. Joseph. They come from all walks of life and bring richness to the lives of our residents. We are delighted to have volunteers who escort the residents to various functions, outings and activities, such as weekly Mass and monthly liturgical services. We are enriched by our volunteers in music therapy and the art program. We are grateful for volunteer assistance at events, special occasions, gardening, parties, our Angel Hair salon and arts and crafts programs.



*A. Gary Chace  
Board President*



*Volunteer Joe Makarewicz, center, shares his extensive stamp collection with volunteer Tom Mosholder, left, and resident Alfreda DeMailo, right.*

We are blessed by volunteers who engage in one-on-one opportunities with our residents by reading, doing a manicure, taking a walk or offering the Eucharist to a resident.

With loving compassion, many “retired” Sisters of St. Joseph continue their ministry of spirituality and hospitality by visiting, talking and engaging Villa residents on a daily basis. Their volunteer spirit, which brings much comfort and joy, is treasured by residents.

Volunteering with our elder residents brings a blessing to both the volunteer and the resident as both agree that there is no substitute for the warm and personal interaction they share.

*If you are interested in volunteering or have some ideas for volunteering,  
please Chris at 724-869-6306 or [cgebhart@villastjoseph.org](mailto:cgebhart@villastjoseph.org).*

### *Letter From a Friend*

The loving care and compassion shown to our mother “Gail” during her 5 years as a resident was absolutely beyond compare. Thank you also for the thoughtfulness shown to the entire family during this time. We know you added years to her life.

– Harry Muders



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## The Mission Corner: *We Pray Each Day*

*By Sister Judith Maroni, CSJ, Director of Mission Integration*

Mission at Villa St. Joseph emphasizes healing, compassion, excellence, care, respect for the sacredness and dignity of person, and all of this as a witness to a profound love of God and neighbor.

The root of this mission is embedded in the charism, or spirit, of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Gospel mandate to care for one another. Throughout their history, the Sisters have placed themselves in service to God's people through ministries that enhance human dignity supporting each person to live life fully and with grace.

At Villa St. Joseph we strive to work together as a community of professionals who bring compassion and excellence to our healing ministry with those we serve. This is a striving that we attend to on a daily basis, and that we never take for granted. Our challenge with one another is to stay mission focused with deep appreciation for the person before us in need of our presence and care - our residents, their families, each other and our visitors.

We pray each day:

*May my presence today in the lives of the residents of Villa St. Joseph bring them the comfort and peace of God and promote their health. Help my words, actions, and attitudes convey the loving care of God for each of them, for God's work is mine to do. St. Joseph, help and guide me. Amen.*



2014 **VILLA** ST. JOSEPH *Annual Report*

*In-Kind Donors*

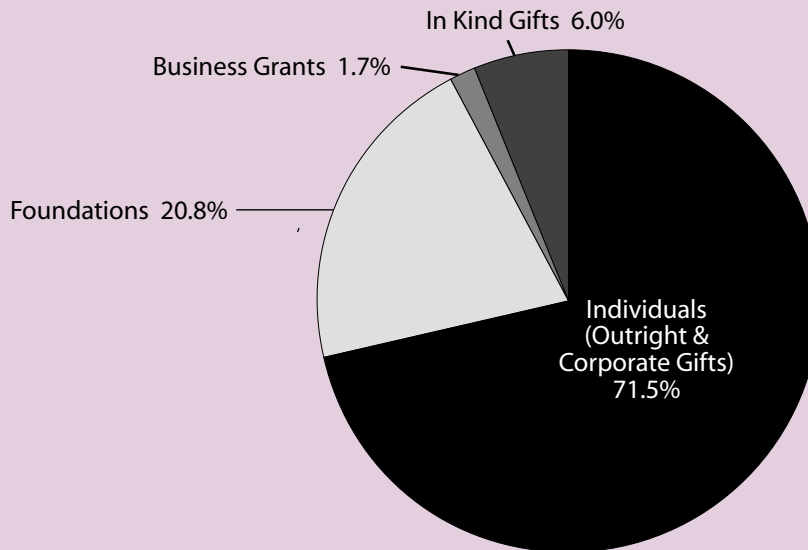
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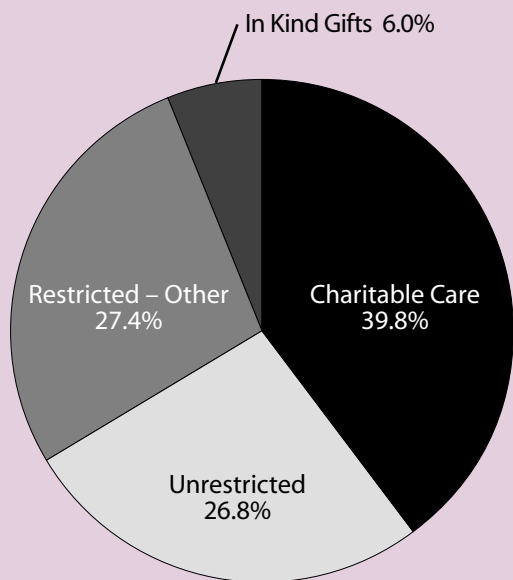
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 Sewickley Spa  
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Sources of Contributions – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014



Individuals (Outright and Corporate Gifts)	\$313,794.19	71.5%
Foundations	\$91,450.00	20.8%
Business Grants	\$7,500.00	1.7%
In Kind Gifts	\$26,103.49	6.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$438,847.68</b>	<b>100%</b>

Uses of Contributions – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014



Charitable Care	175,036.10	39.8%
Unrestricted	\$117,471.53	26.8%
Restricted - Other	\$120,236.56	27.4%
In Kind Gifts	\$26,103.49	6.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$438,847.68</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Young at Heart raises \$94,000 for Villa

Celebrating “home is where the heart is,” 250 friends, supporters and sponsors helped Villa St. Joseph raise \$94,000 at its 2014 *Young at Heart* fund-raising gala, which benefits



*Ed Driscoll*

benevolent care and music therapy. The event took place on September 19 at the Hyatt Regency at Pittsburgh International Airport.

At the event, Eugene A. Giotto of Sewickley received the 2014 *Partner in Caring* award, which honors individuals, groups or organizations who help promote the mission of the Villa.

Mr. Giotto, a trial attorney, completed nine years of service on the Villa board this past June.

Special guest was The Most Rev. Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh. Bonnie and Joseph Makarewicz, long-time volunteers at the Villa, were co-chairpersons

of the event. Students from the Center for Young Musicians, and local singer, Mario Cafarelli, performed at the dinner.

Barbara Anderson, whose parents both received care at the Villa, and Ed Driscoll, a former rehabilitation patient, both offered compelling testimonials of their positive experiences at the Villa.



*Jennifer Giotto; Mary Murray; and Gene Giotto, 2014 Partner in Caring*



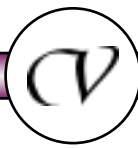
*Barbara Anderson*



*2014 Young at Heart co-chairs, Joe and Bonnie Makarewicz*



*Board members, Sister Anne Green and Kathy Adelman, with Beth Straka*



## Villa Honored as a '2014 Top Workplace'



For the second consecutive year, Villa St. Joseph has been selected as one of the 2014 Top Workplaces in the Pittsburgh region. The announcement was made public in a special Pittsburgh Post-Gazette section, published in September.

The Top Workplaces are determined based on employee feedback from a survey conducted by Workplace Dynamics, LLP, a leading research firm on organizational health and employee engagement.

The Villa staff is committed to person-centered care – whether providing nursing care, engaging residents in songs, serving a made-to-order meal or providing rehabilitative services. By working together in a place of healing, employees minister to the unique physical, emotional, spiritual, and social needs of each resident.

## Help Us Provide for Our Residents Today and Tomorrow

### A Word of Gratitude

In this issue, we publicly thank each and every donor who has made a charitable contribution to Villa St. Joseph this past year. We are deeply grateful to our “partners in caring,” who are valuable members of the Villa St. Joseph family and who help us move our mission and ministry forward. A special thank you is extended to the 330 donors who contributed more than \$53,000 through our recent Thanksgiving appeal, which provides financial help to residents with little or no resources.

### Donate through the United Way

You can support our Benevolent Care Fund by designating all of part of your United Way contribution to Villa St. Joseph. This fund helps us support the care for Villa residents with limited or no financial means. Designate **United Way Agency Code 4916, Combined Federal Campaign Code 87806 for federal employees, or State Employee Appeal Code 4611-0031 for state employees.** Your gift helps us live out our mission of compassionate care to those in need.

### Leave a Legacy

You can leave a legacy of love by making a bequest in your will to Villa St. Joseph. For more information on this and other donor opportunities, please contact Ray.

### Participate in Young at Heart

The *Young at Heart 2015* dinner and auction will take place in September. We will keep you posted on more details as they unfold. For more information on how you can support Young at Heart, contact Ray.

### A Loving Tribute

If you wish to remember or honor a loved one with an engraved paver in our outdoor garden area, a limited number of opportunities is available. To complete the third memorial square, there are only six larger (8" x 8" pavers at \$250) and 12 smaller (4" x 8" pavers at \$100) available for inscription in our rose garden!



*Santa, portrayed by Mike Sabo, gives a hug to resident Margery Tillery at the annual Light Up Night.*

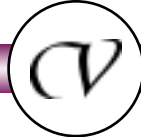
*For more information, contact Ray Niedenberger  
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## Sister Carolyn: I have seen the grace of God everywhere

Sister Carolyn Wiethorn, who became Director of Pastoral Care at Villa St. Joseph just months after its opening in 1997, is completing her ministry there in April.

"Sister Carolyn has graced our lives at the Villa since her arrival," said Mary Murray, Executive Director.

"We all have benefitted from her loving support and presence in her ministry. It is with a great sense of gratitude and appreciation for her many gifts that we make this announcement."

As Sister Carolyn reflects on her service at the Villa, she says, "I have had the privilege of walking with so many souls as they enter a life that is eternal. I have received from them their love and deep faith, their struggles and their longings.

"I have come to know that, as Russian author Leo Tolstoy reminds us, the most important person is the person you are presently with, the most important moment is **now**, and the most important thing to do is whatever is before you."

She adds, "I have seen the grace of **God** everywhere, in the residents, the staff, the families, the volunteers, our benefactors. What a school of life . . . You have been Mother, Father, Sister, Brother to me . . . part of the hundredfold."

Sister Carolyn, a former teacher, has a master's degree in Pastoral Ministry from Loyola University as well as certificates in Spiritual Direction and Liturgy from the University of St. Louis. She plans future service in the areas of spiritual and retreat direction.

